



SUNDAY BUSES AXED IN CUTS

REPORT BY RICHARD GUTTRIDGE



Cllr Mark Deaville

ALL Sunday bus services in Cannock and Stafford have been axed by an operator due to the county council's decision to axe funding.

Arriva says Sunday services from its Cannock depot will be cut as it can no longer afford to keep them running – and the decision will also have knock-on effects during the week. The number 70 Cannock to Wolverhampton, 62 Cannock to Lichfield and 76A Stafford-Wolverhampton will no longer run on Sundays, while the 21 Cannock to Shoal Hill will be withdrawn.

The 2E from Cannock to Walsall will not run during the evening, and funding for the South Staffs Connect and Lichfield and Rugeley Connect has been axed. Meanwhile, the National Express West Midlands number 10 from Brownhills to Burntwood will stop running on weekday evenings but will continue to run on Sundays.

Arriva said its number 25 and 70 services would be rerouted to try and limit the impact.

Staffordshire County Council made changes to its bus funding following a consultation last year.

It said four per cent of journeys would be cut and most daytime services had been protected. The changes will come in from April.

Simon Mathieson, business development director from Arriva Midlands, said: "Cuts to funding will result in the withdrawal of all subsidised services provided by our Cannock depot on Sundays, as well as a number of other evening and daytime subsidised journeys currently operating during the rest of the week."

Numbers

"It will become financially unsustainable for us to continue to cover the overheads we incur opening our Cannock depot on Sundays and it is with regret that we have made the decision to cancel all services that run from our Delta Way depot on Sundays with effect from 1st April 2018."

National Express spokeswoman Ali Bell said: "National Express West Midlands will continue to run the 10 service all the way to Burntwood during the day on Sundays. However, after counting the passenger numbers on the 10 bus from Brownhills to Burntwood during the evenings, we see that it is not commercially viable to carry on running this section of the route, so it will be withdrawn."

Councillor Mark Deaville, the county council's cabinet member for commercial, said: "Some journeys are costing taxpayer £10 a time, which simply isn't sustainable with the budget we have available. After gathering public feedback, it was agreed to proceed with the option which protects the most current daytime services which connect people to employment, education and health services for the lowest overall average subsidy, meaning more than 96 per cent of journeys will still be possible."

Metal fatigue is blamed for microlight airfield crash

A MICROLIGHT crash near Penkridge from which a pilot escaped with minor injuries has been blamed on 'metal fatigue'.

Dominic Whelan's plane rolled over when it lost control as the front wheel gave way on landing.

The crash came weeks after the pilot, from Willenhall, was slashed in the face with the plane's propeller.

His light aircraft was coming in to land at Otherton Airfield, when the front wheel collapsed.

The plane, a Mercury microlight, was a wreck but Mr Whelan, a former RAF engineer, and his 15-year-old son Michael walked away relatively unscathed.

An Air Accident Investigation Branch (AAIB) report into the crash, on July 2 last year, revealed the 42-year-old pilot, who had 38 hours' flying experience, touched down on the main wheels, but when the nose wheel made contact with the ground it collapsed.

An inspection of the wreckage uncovered a fatigue crack at the edge of a weld on the nose gear, which had failed under load during the landing.

The tiny aircraft then tipped onto its left side. Despite the pair escaping without major injuries, the AAIB said the damage to the microlight was 'significant'.

The crash came weeks after Mr Whelan was injured when he was smashed in the face by the plane's propeller, leaving him with a huge gash.

THEATRE STALWART JEAN DIES



Well-known theatre producer and director Jean Brown has died aged 87. Her contribution to local theatre as a director, producer and performer spanned seven decades and included many years with Cannock Operatic Society as well as Stafford Operatic and Cannock Youth Theatre. Despite being a gifted actress and singer, Jean turned her attention to directing and producing and had a knack for discovering and nurturing talent

● Central figure – Page 3

COURT

Two charged on carvery break-in

TWO men have appeared in court in connection with a burglary at a restaurant.

Raymond Keates and Matthew Newton are accused of breaking into the Toby Carvery on the A5 at Cannock and stealing cash from games machines.

The incident happened in the early hours of Sunday.

Keates, aged 52, of Ingram Road, Walsall, and Mathew Newton, 40, of Field Road, Walsall, are charged with burglary and on Tuesday were remanded in custody after appearing at Cannock Magistrates Court.

POLICE

Extra patrols will target Chase riders

POLICE patrols on Cannock Chase have been stepped up following complaints about 'nuisance' motorcyclists.

Officers launched a 'series of operations' and despite failing to catch the culprits, they have pledged to continue their battle against the unruly riders.

Councillor Alan Pearson, chairman of Cannock Chase Council's housing, crime and partnerships scrutiny committee, said: "It is serious."

● Full report – Page 5

EMERGENCY

Woman rescued in 'deliberate' fire

A WOMAN was pulled from a fire that may have been caused deliberately.

Firefighters tackled the blaze at a house in Queen Street, Chasetown, at 1.50am on Thursday. The woman was rescued from a first-floor bedroom and treated for smoke inhalation before she was taken to hospital as a precaution. It is believed the fire was started deliberately in a wheelie bin.

INSIDE

D.A.D.S. DEFIANT OVER SETBACKS



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Get ahead at hat-making masterclass



Kevin McCloud

GET ahead, get a hat – designed and created by your own hand thanks to an unusual event at Penkridge.

A hat-making masterclass weekend is taking place at Lower Drayton Farm on March 10 and 11.

Professional hatters from the independent fibre art studio Innerspirals, based in Somerset, will lead the weekend's craft-making with visitors making either a trilby or short top hat.

Those taking part will learn about template design, shading colours and professional finishing techniques to complete their individual headgear.

Basic knowledge of felt making is all that is needed but the limited places must be booked by March 2.

The event has been organised as part of the Wool@J13 festival which takes place at the farm in May and celebrates anything wool.

During the event, there will be a hat exhibition which will raise money for Brain Tumour Research.

Hat-makers from the March weekend are invited to enter their creations in the display. It costs £2 a hat to enter with 50p going to the charity.

Also, March 31 is Wear a Hat Day

in support of Brain Tumour Research. Events will be taking place across the country with a Wool@J13 'flash mob' in Stafford town centre on the day.

Stars such as actress Linda Robson, actor Ian Reddison and TV presenter Kevin McCloud are backing Wear a Hat Day.

McCloud said: "Brain tumours can be fatal if not diagnosed and treated early enough. I know because I have lost two people close to me who were diagnosed with brain tumours."

For more details visit <http://wool-j13.uk/whats-on/get-ahead-get-a-hat/>

It's Monday mayhem as winter bites back

ROAD accidents, cars stuck in snow and 10-minute journeys that took an hour – winter returned to Staffordshire this week with a vengeance.

There was chaos as the weather forced schools to shut and a motorway crash caused gridlock in Stafford.

In Hednesford, traffic was unable to get up the hill on Stafford Lane and two stranded HGVs on the East Cannock Road added to the Monday morning mayhem.

At one point the traffic tailed back two miles into Cannock town centre.

Drivers also faced problems on Pye Green Road, Cannock, as cars struggled to get up the hill, with complaints that the route had not been gritted, although Staffordshire County Council said gritters were on the roads overnight on Sunday in anticipation of snow followed by freezing temperatures.

Slow

Schools that were shut in the county included Hazel Slade Community Primary School in Cannock, Hednesford Valley High School and Chase View Community Primary School, Rugeley.

Crashes on both sides of the M6 at junction 13 at 7am on Monday caused eight miles of slow motorway traffic. Hundreds of drivers tried to make their way through Stafford, only to add to the slow moving traffic. All major roads in and out of the town were caught up in the misery.

At one point, just after 8.30am, traffic tailed back from the town centre almost two miles to Haughton along the A519.

Beaconsfield, already beset with problems near the new housing estate opposite Parkside, was also hit by chaos, but as one regular user put it: "No change there, then."

Councillor Helen Fisher, cabinet support member for highways and transport on the county council, said: "As always, if there is snow and ice, people should allow extra time for their journeys, even if roads have been gritted."

Skills threaded through artwork



Elizabeth Attfield with Councillor Alan Pearson and, inset, detail from the embroidery Picture: John Kraujalis

AN embroidery handcrafted over four and a half years by volunteers has been unveiled at Pye Green Community Centre.

The 6ft by 4ft piece of art, created by 25 members of the Chads-moor Tapestry Group, has pride of place in the entrance of the centre in Bradbury Lane. An illustrated map of Cannock Chase in thread, it

features the flora and fauna of the area, as well as landmarks.

Each flower and creature was worked on separately, taking between 50 and 100 hours to complete, while the assembly alone took 900 hours. Unveiling the piece, Elizabeth Attfield, vice-chair of the tapestry group, said: "All of these items are the work of in-

dividuals but in all this our chair, Brenda Marshall, has guided us, helped and encouraged us."

Councillor Alan Pearson, chairman of Hednesford Town Council, said: "The dedication and attention to detail is remarkable."

The embroidery was framed to museum standard by locally based NHR Joinery.

Malcolm in a return to the hot seat with Camra

MEMBERS of the Cannock Chase branch of Camra have toasted new chairman Malcolm Pearson.

He was appointed at the AGM at the Cross Keys Hotel, Hednesford.

Malcolm, who previously held the role from 2013-15, replaces Dave Guy, who has stepped down after two years to become branch treasurer, replacing Neil Slattery, who is membership secretary and webmaster.

Hannah Cooper stays on as vice-chairman and social media co-ordinator and Dorinda Gibbons is branch secretary. Chris Southall is branch contact/press officer, Don Taylor pubs officer, Barry Wilkins Good Beer Guide co-ordinator and Phil Raybould public transport officer. Phil Raybould and Kev Whitehouse will share the social secretary role.

At the same meeting, the branch announced their Pubs of the Year.

The third-place presentation to The Rusty Barrel is on Friday, March 9 and the second-place presentation will be to The Newhall Arms on Friday, March 2. The first-place presentation to The Linford Arms is on Friday, March 16.

Nationally, Camra is looking to widen its remit to represent drinkers of quality beers, ciders and perries of all types as well as moving its focus beyond traditional pubs if members vote to approve recommended changes at the national AGM in Coventry.

Support for the national tidy-up

LICHFIELD District Council is backing Keep Britain Tidy's Great British Spring Clean, and encouraging local people to take part in a community clean-up.

Over the weekend of March 2-4, thousands of people will be helping to clear up litter and taking part in community clean-up events.

Chris Cook, head of leisure and operational services for Lichfield District Council, said: "We do our best to collect the rubbish from across the district."

"But there may well be a litter hot-spot that we haven't got to yet and so organising or taking part in a community clean-up is a great way to help us to keep the district clean." Find out more about the Great British Spring Clean at www.keeptobritaintidy.org

Wildlife trust AGM

THE Cannock group of the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust have their AGM on Wednesday, February 21, at St Luke's Church Centre, Cannock, at 7.30pm, followed by an illustrated talk on 'A Holiday in Botswana' by Peter Johnson. Admission is £2. Call 01889 881889.

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Group sets up £3,000 appeal for defibrillators

A CROWDFUNDER appeal has been launched to raise £3,000 for life-saving equipment in Hednesford.

The Hednesford in Partnership community steering group wants to buy at least two Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) to be placed in Market Street.

Councillor Paul Woodhead, vice-chair of Hednesford in Partnership, said: "Following a serious medical incident in Hednesford last week, which unfortunately resulted in a fatality, it is evident that there are insufficient locations for AEDs, and the community is coming together to crowd fund for two additional units in the town."

Setting out its appeal on the Crowdfunder page, the partnership says: "Hednesford has one AED in the town centre on the wall of the Co-op supermarket and we would like to place two more at strategic locations down the town so they are visible and easily accessible."

Each unit costs around £1,500 and would be secured in cabinets, registered with the emergency services, to be accessed 24 hours a day.

The partnership said: "These being in our town could save the life of anyone in need." It has been working with Burntwood and Cannock Chase Community First Responders on the project. Go to www.crowdfunder.co.uk/aeds-for-hednesford/

● Elements – Page 25

Fire service looks for 20 apprentices

ASPIRING firefighters have the chance to apply for an apprenticeship with Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service.

The deadline for applying is February 19. Applicants will need to complete a series of online tests before progressing to the next stages which includes job-related tests.

At the end of the process the service aims to recruit around 20 apprentice firefighters who will take part in a 15-week training course. The course is set to start at the end of August after which the trainees will join crews at stations around the county and continue their training and development.

For information visit the careers section of the fire service website at www.staffordshirefire.gov.uk

Talking to Friends

THE Friends of Etching Hill have their first speaker of the year on March 8 at Etching Hill Church Hall, Mount Road, at 7.30 pm. The subject is Sex, Flies and Sticky Tape. Everyone is welcome and admission is free.

Owls about that! MP at Animal Zone



Gavin Williamson and owl at Rodbaston

WHAT a hoot! Defence Secretary Gavin Williamson met up with volunteers from the World Owl Trust and some feathered friends.

The South Staffordshire MP, who is a member and patron of the trust, took a break from his duties as Defence Secretary and concentrated on constituency matters during his visit to Rodbaston Animal Zone at South Staffordshire College.

Seventy owls are currently being temporarily homed at the site until the trust's new base at Himley Park has been built. Delays with histori-

cal excavations being carried out on behalf of the West Midlands Historic Buildings Trust mean that an opening date for the new site is still unknown. Volunteers are hopeful it will be operational by spring of 2019.

Impressed

Alan Pearce, chairman of the board of trustees, said: "Even with his very demanding parliamentary job which takes up a lot of his time, Gavin is very supportive in his role as a patron of the World Owl Trust attending trust events whenever he can for

which the trust is very grateful." Mr Williamson said: "I had a lovely time visiting Rodbaston Animal Zone last week to have an update on the work of the World Owl Trust.

"I am always so impressed to hear how hard volunteers work to care for the owls and I was pleased to hear that progress is being made at the new site in Himley Park," Mr Williamson added.

"I am really looking forward to seeing the site completed as I know it will be a wonderful attraction within South Staffordshire."

Tributes to 'a central figure' of local theatre

THEATRE producer and director Jean Brown, known for her many musical productions at the Prince of Wales Theatre, has died aged 87.

Jean's contribution to local theatre as a director, producer and performer spanned seven decades and included many years with Cannock Operatic Society as well as Stafford Operatic and Cannock Youth Theatre where her productions included Carousel, The King & I, Oliver!, Fiddler on the Roof and South Pacific.

Growing up in Wolverhampton, Jean was introduced to music by her father, John Lesley Harris, who was a performer in the Entertainments National Service Association (ENSA) during the Second World War, and Jean followed in his footsteps, later becoming a member of Wolverhampton Operatic Society. While working as a telephonist at the Express & Star in the early 1950s, she met and married Jim Brown and raised two children in Cannock.

Created

Despite being a gifted actress and singer, Jean turned her attention to directing and producing and never looked back.

She had a knack for discovering and nurturing talent and was committed to staging productions of the highest quality to the district.

In her later years, Jean set up her own company, Jean Brown Productions, under which she produced A Winter's Tale, The Sound of Music and a revival of ENSAtainment; a wartime show she had created in the 1990s as a tribute to her father.

Her granddaughter Sarah Williams said: "She will always be remembered for being a central figure in the arts communities of Staffordshire and for having an unrivalled passion and commitment for bringing people together to share in the magic of theatre."

Jean passed away peacefully in Cannock on February 6. She leaves behind a daughter, son, sister, four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. The funeral will be at Stafford Crematorium at 1pm on March 5 followed by a reception at the Prince of Wales Theatre, Cannock. For offerings of flowers call A.J. Sellman funeral directors on 01543 502322.



BEFORE: Katie Woods – 'the moment for me to change'



AFTER: Katie lost three stones in just over a year



Team of the year, from left, joint manager Cheryl Hooper, owner Joanna Rigby, instructors Nicola Waldron and Debbie Wood, and joint manager Kerry Scott

Snap was spur for getting in shape

KATIE Woods never realised how much weight she had gained after getting married – until she went on holiday in 2013 and saw a photo of herself.

"That was the moment for me to change," she recalls.

"I walked into Gymphobics in Rugeley and was given time, advice and a detailed programme to work to. I started at 11 stones and got down to eight in just over a year."

Mrs Woods became pregnant in May 2017 and continued to work out and eat healthily until she was 35 weeks. "Following the birth of my daughter I got back to the gym when she was 10 weeks old," she added.

Her achievement was recognised when she won the under-50s category at the Gymphobics National Awards, where the Rugeley gym team headed by owner Joanna Rigby won National Team of the Year for a second year in succession.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Helpers ready to clean up canal

CANAL clean-up volunteers will be holding a 'work party' at Leathermill Lane, Rugeley, on Tuesday, February 27 between 9.30am and 2pm.

They will be removing shopping trolleys and underwater obstructions from the canal using grappling hooks; removing vegetation by the bridge; picking up litter; strimming the canal bank; and planting wild primroses.

Equipment will be provided but sensible clothing that won't get snagged by brambles should be worn along with strong footwear. The event has been organised by the Lichfield branch of the Inland Waterways Association. Call 07581 794111.

Centre to share woodcraft skills

THE county's largest nature conservation charity is giving people the chance to find out more about a skill from a bygone age at a series of special woodcraft events.

Staffordshire Wildlife Trust is working with three of its members to deliver 'Bygone Woodcraft' sessions at its Wolesey Centre headquarters, near Rugeley.

The sessions take place on Sundays April 15, May 20, June 17, July 15, August 19, September 16 and October 21. For details contact Sam Pachner on 01889 880100.

Met Office to use regional slang

IT might be 'bucketing' in the Black Country, but it's 'tipping it down' in Birmingham – according to research by the Met Office, which now plans to introduce regional terms to forecasts.

By incorporating regional slang into broadcasts, the Met Office hopes to make weather bulletins simpler and more useful for the public.

The changes follow a survey that found disparities between how people described the weather. The Met Office has now launched a project called #3wordweather asking for a three-word summary of the weather.

Farm celebration of all things romantic

CANALSIDE Farm near Rugeley is celebrating Valentine's Day by hosting a week-long event in its cafe.

Anna Barton, retail manager at the Great Haywood business, said: "We ran our first Valentine's Afternoon Teas last year and they proved so popular we have decided to do it again this year." The celebration of all things romantic runs until Sunday.

Anyone wishing to book a place can visit www.canalsidefarm.co.uk

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COUNTY NEWS

Prisoner died of 'natural causes'

A PRISONER died from cardiac arrest after being admitted to hospital with stomach pain and sickness, an inquest heard. Jason Treymayne, aged 47, was an inmate at HMP Featherstone when he taken to New Cross Hospital following loss of appetite and generally being unwell on June 1.

Cannock Coroners Court heard how tests showed he had a 'rare intra-abdominal malignancy' and a family history of cancer. His condition deteriorated, but despite several attempts a 'diagnosis was allusive'. Mr Treymayne died on August 17.

Assistant coroner Margaret Jones gave a conclusion of natural causes.

Jazz festival shots on display

A COLLECTION of eye-catching photographs from the Birmingham, Solihull and Sandwell Jazz Festival 2017 is now on display until June.

Photographs, which capture some of the stars of the festival, are at six venues: Sandwell Arts Café, Central Sixth campus, New Street, West Bromwich; Central Library, High Street, West Bromwich; Wednesbury Library, Walsall Street; Tipton Library, Unity Walk; Blackheath Library, High Street; and Bleakhouse Library, Bleakhouse Road, Oldbury.

The Jazz Festival returns in July and more volunteers are needed. Call 0121 569 4904.

Talk on the real Peaky Blinders

THERE will be a talk on the real Peaky Blinders in the West Midlands.

Professor Carl Chinn is delivering the lecture in the Mockingbird Theatre at Birmingham's Custard Factory the creative hub in Gibb Street, Digbeth, on June 26 at 7pm.

He will be telling the story of the real gangs that terrorised people in the 1920s.

The professor will also be signing copies of his book The Real Peaky Blinders.

Clangers being made at Wolfie's Den

YOUNGSTERS have the chance to make their own Clanger at Molineux next month. A team from Wolverhampton Art Gallery is visiting Wolfie's Den on March 3.

The activity is free and the first 100 children to Wolfie's Den will be able to make their own classic Clanger from the 1970s animated TV series. The gallery is staging the exhibition Clangers, Bagpuss & Co until April 29.

PCCs back plans for heroin on NHS

RADICAL new plans for drug addicts to receive free heroin on the NHS have been backed by the Police and Crime Commissioners for both the West Midlands and Staffordshire.

West Midlands PCC David Jamieson said the move will take the drugs market away from criminal gangs.

He said: "These are bold, but practical, proposals that will reduce crime, the cost to the public purse and the

terrible harm caused by drugs." But Staffordshire PCC Mr Ellis said that while he agreed with his opposite number in the West Midlands, he was concerned that addicts might try and take advantage of the system.

Mr Ellis said: "The difficulty is that we don't want unintended consequences." The plans have been backed by the Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH) and include the idea for Drug

Consumption Rooms set up across the region where addicts can inject heroin using clean needles and have access to medical support.

The move follows a report by the West Midlands PCC that estimated the cost of substance misuse in the West Midlands to be £1.4 billion a year.

RSPH chief executive Shirley Cramer said: "These recommenda-

tions are an important and welcome contribution to the growing momentum behind common sense drug policy reform."

Mr Ellis added: "I'm supportive of trying something new. It's about trying to strangle the market so there is not a criminal market in drugs. It's the right idea, the right ambition but it is very difficult to do. We need to join our approach up much better."

Officers are spending less time on the beat

By Alex Ross

POLICE time on the beat in south Staffordshire dropped by 12 per cent in one year.

Officers spent 8,882 fewer hours out of the station in the village communities from 2016 to last year, a report has revealed.

It showed police were out of the station for 63,164 hours last year, compared with 72,046 hours the year before.

Officer visibility also dropped in the area, which includes Penkridge, Cheslyn Hay, Essington, Pattingham, Penn and Kinver. Figures were not available for Cannock.

But the report, presented at a Staffordshire Police and Crime Commissioner meeting last week, showed out-of-station officer hours also dropped in Stafford - down almost 4,000 hours to 79,749 hours.

Increasing

Essington Parish Councillor Peter Lever said: "The crime figures are rising in our area - we need police presence in our communities more than ever. I can't remember when I last saw a police officer on the beat in Essington."

Staffordshire Police defended the figures and the force is increasing the number of police officers from 1,661 to 1,705 next year. PCSO numbers will remain the same, at 237.

Insp Richard Meaden, Commander for South Staffordshire Local Policing Team, said: "The difference in the number of hours equates to around four full-time police officers based on a 40-hour working week."

"South Staffordshire Local Policing Team has seen a number of officers off work on long-term sickness during this period. However, between July 2017 and February this year, our resources have been bolstered with the arrival of eight new officers."

Charity bounces back with a party



Founder Andy Aldred celebrates with workers Tracey Pallatine and Suzanna Hooson at the DADS charity in Cannock

A CHARITY that has been hit by thefts and burglaries in the last couple of years has vowed that it won't let the criminals win as it celebrated its third anniversary.

Dads and Disability Support (DADS), based in Cannock, was victim to several break-ins in the past two years including the most recent last month when a crook broke into a Santa's grotto and stole presents left over from Christmas.

It follows on from a theft 18 months ago when approximately £7,500 worth of garden tools were stolen.

One of the Longford Road charity's vehicles was sto-

len 14 months ago and in September a woodchipper was taken.

Andy Aldred set up the charity which supports parents with disabled children after his daughter, Cody-Jo, who is now nine-years-old, was born prematurely.

He said he had been close to closing but is determined not to. He said: "To be honest last year I was ready to shut it because it has been a tough couple of years."

"We have some rotten luck but I have a friend who said to me 'Do not let them get you down, stand up to fight' so nobody is going to force us to shut."

Landowner threatens to move gipsies in

A DEVELOPER threatened to allow gipsies to move onto fields if residents did not back his plan to build houses.

Landowner Wayne Rushton, aged 54, from Cannock, sent a letter to residents who had been opposed to his plans.

The letter said travellers would be invited onto the vacant plot unless they supported his housing scheme and went on to offer £250 per house if the occupants wrote to planners in favour of his application.

Mr Rushton later said he regretted sending the letter and withdrew his offer, blaming his actions on having 'a drink'. Residents were alarmed at receiving the note and said they were 'shocked' and 'disgusted'.

Mr Rushton, who has been dealing in property for 34 years, claimed the letter had been sent following a call from a councillor suggesting he should not seek planning permission for the site near a quiet cul-de-sac in Broughton Astley, near Leicester.

He said: "The £250 was more of an incentive for amenity - we wanted them to support us. I must admit, when I wrote the letter I was under the influence of a drink."

"I say the letter was probably a mistake and I did the second letter the next day saying we retract the £250. I did regret the first letter. It was really just off-the-cuff. I would rather the community have something they want and talk to the community because they know what they want."

Harborough District Council said it was 'taking the matter very seriously'. It said no planning application had yet been received. Police said they would be contacting the landowner.

Say 'I do' to top wedding fair visit

ORGANISERS of a West Midlands wedding fair are offering the chance to win a luxury prize.

Brides who register for the event at The Mount Hotel in Tettenhall on February 25 will be in with a chance of winning an afternoon tea for two in the Drawing Room Bar and Grill. Go to www.wolverhamptonmagazine.weddingfair.co.uk

There will be up to 30 exhibitors at the fair, which will feature all aspects of planning a wedding including venues, dresses and suits, as well as hair and beauty, cars, flowers and photography.

Anyone interested in exhibiting at the fair, staged by Wolverhampton Magazine, can email deana.jones@expressandstar.co.uk or leah.edmunds@expressandstar.co.uk

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Thousands of new firms are set up in region

THERE were 26,802 new companies formed in the West Midlands during 2017 with 6,449 in Staffordshire and 7,804 in Worcestershire figures show.

It brings the total number of registered companies in the West Midlands to 159,647, Staffordshire to 47,930 and Worcestershire to 38,764 amounting to a 2.3 per cent rise for the West Midlands, two per cent growth in Staffordshire and a 15.9 per cent rise in Worcestershire.

In Staffordshire, Lichfield led the way with 1,271. Lichfield was followed by Stoke-on-Trent (1,270) and Stafford (745).

The statistics come from the Inform Direct Review of UK Company Formations using data from Companies House and the Office for National Statistics.

In the Black Country, Sandwell had the highest rise of 2,667 new companies being registered over the year.

The other new-company totals for the Black Country were Wolverhampton (2,229), Dudley (2,128) and Walsall (1,705).

The Wyre Forest district in Worcestershire, which covers Kidderminster, had 524 new companies registered.

Inform Direct director John Korchak said: "These figures for new company formations during 2017 show that Staffordshire continues to be a fertile ground for entrepreneurs and new business ventures."

School celebrates Chinese New Year

WOLGARSTON High School in Penkridge has been celebrating the dawn of the Chinese New Year.

Students and staff have been taking part in various activities centred on Chinese culture.

Among the special lessons at Wolgarston, Year 12 business studies students focused on how to be successful when doing business in China, and Year 10 Hospitality and Catering students took part in Chinese New Year themed lessons.

The Chinese New Year starts tomorrow (Friday), marking the Year of the Dog, up until March 4, 2019.

Famous people born in the year of the dog include Prince William, Kate Middleton, Justin Bieber, Tommy Lee Jones and Mariah Carey.

Bound for Beacon

CHASE Ramblers are going on a nine-mile easy/moderate walk from Barr Beacon this Sunday, meeting at Hednesford railway station car park for a 9am departure. Call 01543 677816. New walkers are welcome.

Two wanted in connection with murder



Jimmy Michael Connors, 28



Tom Joseph Ward, 17

POLICE are hoping to trace two men wanted in connection with the murder of a pensioner.

Staffordshire Police have launched a nationwide appeal to find Jimmy Michael Connors, aged 28, and Tom Joseph Ward, 17. The pair are wanted in connection of the murder of Arthur Gumbley.

Mr Gumbley, 87, was attacked in a violent robbery at his home in Little Aston.

Valuable jewellery was taken in the robbery, including a

purse which belonged to his late wife, a gold watch and a bracelet. Cash was also taken.

Mr Gumbley was left fighting for his life but died three weeks later. Staffordshire Police say they want to interview Connors and Ward and know where they were on the day of the attack.

Connors is described as 5ft 5in and of average build. Ward, who lives in Stoke-on-Trent occasionally, is described as 5ft 8in and of average build. Both men are said to have an Irish

accent. A police spokesman said: "If you know these two men pictured, or know of their recent whereabouts, we need your help to track them down."

Mr Gumbley was attacked during the robbery at his home, which happened on November 21 between 7pm and 9pm. He died on December 13.

Both men are considered violent by police, who have advised people not to approach them.

Anyone who sees Connors or Ward should call 101 or 999.



Arthur Gumbley in hospital

'Nuisance' bikers are targeted by patrols

'NUISANCE' motorbikes have forced police patrols to be stepped up on Cannock Chase.

Officers launched a 'series of operations' after concerned residents spotted the anti-social behaviour at the beauty spot.

Despite failing to catch the culprits, officers have pledged to continue their battle against the unruly riders by setting their sights on hotspots in the district.

Duncan Rollo, partnerships manager at Cannock Chase local policing team, said: "Neighbourhood officers have carried out a high-visibility operation following previous reports of motorcycle-related anti-social behaviour at Cannock Chase."

"The primary aim was to act as a deterrent and provide public reassurance."

"During the operation, officers responded to reports from members of the public. Although no bikes were seized, we gathered some very useful intelligence."

Injuries

"We are now working closely with our colleagues at the Central Motorway Police Group and looking at taking more robust action to tackle this problem. From a local policing perspective we will continue to carry out operations by targeting hotspots and addresses where we believe bikes are being stored."

Councillor Alan Pearson, chairman of Cannock Chase council's housing, crime and partnerships scrutiny committee and who represents Hednesford North ward, said culprits need to find an 'appropriate' place to ride before any injuries are caused by their anti-social behaviour. "It's not just the noise," he said.

"It's the potential of hitting someone walking on the Chase or even on push bikes. I don't know why people think it's all right to go riding on it with high-speed bikes. It's something I'm totally against and something that residents are too. It is serious."

Cannock police tweeted: "Following reports of nuisance motorbikes on Cannock Chase, officers are running a series of operations to disrupt this behaviour."

Litter is no match for these pickers



Thirty people including residents and members of 1st Hednesford Scouts helped tackle the litter



A hub cap sits on top of a pile of rubbish



Litter busters hard at work on Sunday

LITTER busters rolled up their sleeves and collected 20 bags of rubbish from a nature reserve – plus a shopping trolley, hub cap and traffic cone.

Litter picks are now being organised by Friends of Hednesford Reserves, and the latest on Sunday involved 30 people including residents and members of 1st Hednesford Scouts at Old Hednes-

ford Park. It comes after 50 people including Kingsmead pupils turned out the previous Sunday to help tidy up the old Brickworks Nature Reserve in Hednesford.

Councillor Paul Woodhead, who helps lead the litter picks alongside Rob Ryder, said: "Another successful litter pick bringing our community together."

Community litter picks take

place on Sunday mornings, with the Old Hednesford Park targeted the second Sunday of each month.

The first Sunday of each month will focus on the old Brickworks site, the third Sunday is the town and station and the final Sunday sees litter collected at Anglesey Nature Reserve. Details are available at the Friends of Hednesford Nature Reserve Facebook page.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Pick up a gift at wildlife trust fair

A CONSERVATION charity is inviting people to pick up a unique Mother's Day gift by attending its popular spring craft fair next month.

Staffordshire Wildlife Trust is holding the event on March 10 and 11 at its Wolsley Centre headquarters, near Rugeley. There will be a range of stalls during both days at the fair, including paintings, knitwear and jewellery. The fair will be open between 10am and 4pm. Admission is £1.50.

Sam Pachner, events and fundraising officer at the trust, said: "It is Mother's Day on the Sunday so it's a perfect chance to bring your mother along and buy her a unique gift."

Witnesses plea on One Stop robbery

POLICE are appealing for witnesses following a robbery in Norton Canes.

A man carrying a kitchen knife went into the One Stop shop in Norton East Road at 10.50pm on January 15 and ran off with cash towards Breeze Avenue. "Fortunately no-one was hurt during the incident, but a member of staff was understandably shaken," a police spokesman said.

"The offender is described as a white male, and he was wearing a black woolly hat, a black scarf around his face and a blue tracksuit." Call the police on 101 with information.

Shoppers donate £20k for appeal

SHOPPERS at Sainsbury's in Cannock raised £20,984 for The Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal by donating last October and November.

It takes the total raised by Sainsbury's customers throughout the UK to more than £3 million in 2017.

Cannock store manager Andy Beardmore said: "Our local community always gets behind the Poppy Appeal and each year our customers and colleagues continue to dig deep."

We're thrilled to have raised such a huge amount and look forward to seeing what the future holds."

Arriva merges zones to simplify bus fares

ARRIVA is merging its Cannock and Stafford travel zones from Sunday to provide a 'more simplified pricing structure' for bus passengers.

The move will see some fares increased and others reduced as the two areas are brought in line. Mark Bowd, managing director of Arriva Midlands, said: "We have endeavoured to keep all changes to a minimum."

For ticketing and timetable details, visit www.arrivabus.co.uk/midlands

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IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews



Words that just add up to a lot of confusion

STRANGE how words that have been in common use for centuries are suddenly used to mean something completely different.

For example, until last week I had pretty firm ideas of what farmers and miners did. Farmers produce food – you know, growing crops, tending to animals, that kind of thing. And miners? They go on strike. And in between strikes they dig beneath the ground for coal, gold, or whatever. I'm fairly certain they don't set fire to tower blocks.

Yet last week, a Russian website said a huge fire in a Vladivostok tower block was caused by a computer nerd 'mining' for Bitcoins.

"Officers intervened and shut down the illegal farm," it said.

Apparently, mining for Bitcoins involves solving lots of very complicated equations, which overloaded Mr Nerdovitch's computers. In what sounds like a particularly bad episode of Doctor Who, the mathematical processes caused a power surge, sending the flat up in flames. Who knew Bitcoins were so dangerous?

ANOTHER word which seems to change definition depending on context is "exciting". In everyday conversation, I think I know what it means. But whenever it is used by local government, it seems to take on a very different definition.

Take, for example, the announcement by Dudley Council that 13 months after handing a five-year lease to the Dudley Hippodrome friends group, it will be terminating the agreement.

Council leader Patrick Harley said: "We will be looking to draw up some exciting plans for the site."

I think we all have an idea of what "exciting plans" involve. A new theatre or opera house. A major tourist attraction, on the scale of the Patrick Motor Museum which was due to come to Dudley 16 years ago, before local politics got in the way. That would be exciting.

The problem is some of the other "exciting" plans the council has put forward for the site in the past. First, it was a temporary pay-and-display car park. Then there was a metal-framed conference room then a black-paving scheme. Now the word is, if the Hippodrome is demolished, the site will be used for yet another college building. I doubt if even the students are excited about that.

I have no idea whether the Hippodrome friends have a viable plan, or indeed why the council bought the building in the first place. But until someone comes up with something more "exciting" there's surely no harm in giving them a chance.

Why pardon Suffragettes for crimes they were proud of?



Anthony Bangham – accused of planning to nick motorists at 1mph over limit



Jacob Rees-Mogg – says he is a weed but beware that he has never learned to box



Shaun Evans – has about eight years to morph into somebody resembling Morse

They rejoiced in breaking the law

THIS week's centenary of Votes for Women has been accompanied by much playing of the Suffragettes' song March of the Women by Ethel Mary Smyth. From time to time we moan about our dirge-like National Anthem. Well, here's a ready-made replacement, although some of Cicely Hamilton's lyrics might need changing. "Cry with the wind, for the dawn is breaking" sounds like a medical condition but you can't argue with the splendour of: "Open your eyes to the blaze of day."

THERE are calls to pardon Suffragettes who planted bombs, committed arson and smashed windows in the campaign for Votes for Women. Leave well alone. The Suffragettes rejoiced in breaking the law. They boasted of the number of times they were force-fed, like a badge of honour. What right have we, 100 years later, to pardon them for crimes they were proud to commit?

ADVICE to balaclava-wearing urban warriors considering squaring up to the likes of Jacob Rees-Mogg. Don't. Rees-Mogg, who confronted a bunch of offensive protesters at a university debate, says he is an utter weed. I am reminded of the weedy public schoolboy who was on a farm-management course I attended many years ago. He was the only one of us with a car and one night another student, a big, tough rocker with a fringed leather jacket, said it would be a big laff to steal the weedy kid's car for a joyride. He (the rocker) turned up for breakfast the next morning with a bloody nose and a black eye. Turned out the weedy kid, who had caught him in the act, was the all-England public schools flyweight champion. They may look inoffensive but a lot of public school boys do something the rest of us never do. Boxing.

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



NO sooner had the Daily Mail accused West Mercia's chief constable Anthony Bangham of planning to nick motorists at 1mph over the speed limit than the back-peddalling began. The National Police Chiefs Council insisted Mr Bangham had not called for punishment for going 1mph too fast. Much relief all round. Enforcing the law in such a draconian, zero-tolerance fashion would be stupid and quite unworthy of any British constabulary.

LAWYERS are preparing cases to prove that women employees of Tesco are doing "work of equal value" to male employees in different jobs, and deserve to be paid the same. This follows the Birmingham City Council campaign where school dinner ladies were judged to be of equal value to binmen and received pay rises and back pay. It has so far cost the council more than £1,000 million. The case I am longing to see is that of Anna, the minimum-wage cleaner in a large legal practice specialising in employment law. While Anna has no legal qualifications, she keeps the place tidy, disinfects the kitchen and loos and washes the mugs. She provides a clean environment allowing the partners to work in safety. And one day a judge rules that, although Anna's work is very different from that of the lawyers, it is "of equal value" and she therefore deserves the same pay as the average barrister in the practice. Anna gets an immediate rise of £200,000 a year and £5 million back pay. Strangely enough, her bosses do not stand

outside the High Court and claim this is a great victory for equal rights.

IN Endeavour (ITV), Shaun Evans plays the 'young' Inspector Morse. As the new series begins, Evans is 37. Inspector Morse was first screened in 1987 when John Thaw (Morse) was 45. Which means Evans has about eight years to successfully morph into somebody resembling John Thaw, or risk being denounced by one of the older Morse's colleagues at Cowley nick. "Hang on, pal. I knew Morse in his 40s and he was nothing like you . . ." Impersonating a police officer, eh?

A READER draws my attention to "energy shots," which come in tiny 60ml bottles at health shops and promise to "boost your focus." He says the price works out at £31 per litre - more than a bottle of malt whisky. True enough. On the other hand, no-one ever claimed that pure malt boosted anything, with the possible exception of the pub's profits. Another 40-year-old Glenfuddle, sir?

A READER writes: "What the hell has identity to do with leaving the EU?" Seriously? Can some people really not see the difference between the UK as one of 28 members of a political bloc governed from Brussels and the UK as an independent nation governed from Westminster, making its own trade deals, passing its own laws and guarding its own frontiers? What a fine job the EU propaganda ministry has been doing. Meanwhile, the recent threats from Brussels to punish Britain in the transition period are a reminder, if we needed it, that the EU is not a big, jolly, benevolent organisation but a hard-nosed capitalist federation, hell-bent on preventing any other states from quitting.

TALKING POINT



Trying for a baby? Do NOT watch the soaps

IT'S heartbreaking. I feel so sorry for the millions of women desperate to have a baby – that awful feeling when you have been trying for so long and nothing happens. Sometimes there does not even seem to be a medical explanation.

And while they struggle on, with every month bringing new hope of that longed-for baby, only to have their hopes dashed, it seems that all around them – friends, relatives or colleagues – are announcing their happy news.

There are smiles on their faces as they express their congratulations but they are no doubt eaten up with jealousy.

Everywhere, they see babies, buggies, smiling children. It is so hard. And many pay out thousands to go through round after round of IVF which end in failure and more heartbreak and a very sorry-looking bank balance.

People think that babies can be planned – best time to suit your lifestyle, finances, new home etc – but it does not work out that way for everyone.

You may wonder why I am writing about this. The answer is TV soaps. These just add insult to injury for these poor women. I just hope that they don't watch them, because they just pile on the misery.

In these soaps, it seems that a reckless one-night stand means an instant pregnancy. How hard that must be for the women who have been trying for months or even years and are in a committed relationship, or the woman who has just returned from hospital recovering from a miscarriage – do you ever really recover?

Why do the soaps have to use this storyline, if you can call it that, so many times? Surely they should be advocating the importance of using some sort of protection. It seems totally irresponsible.

When dealing with any other sort of medical or emotional problems, there is normally a message at the end of the programme: "If you've been affected by this storyline you can call . . ."

But with the pregnancy storylines, there is nothing to bring any help or comfort to all the would-be mums they have upset. This is possibly a medical and definitely an emotional problem and should be recognised as such.

And maybe another warning to viewers – if you are going to have a quick bit of unplanned fun, probably with someone you shouldn't, then you should be aware of the risks of an unwanted pregnancy. Or maybe just give the 'fun' a miss.

We teach our children to be responsible and the soaps' attitude is not one they should be having thrown at them over and over again. Scriptwriters take note – you are causing a lot of misery.

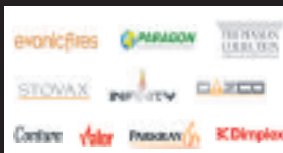
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Bright outlook thanks to school's water wall

NURSERY children are making a splash at a school named as one of the best performing for early years thanks to a new water wall.

It is the latest addition to Landywood Primary School in Great Wyrley and is proving a huge hit with the enthusiastic three and four-year-olds.

The water wall has been installed in one of the two outdoor areas for the youngsters in early years.

The school has worked with Pentagon Play and Tesco on the project which aims to help teach young children about the weather.

By bringing water play to life, it will also help to develop children's understanding of scientific topics such as gravity and water flow as they work to direct the water around the wall.

It also teaches key skills of problem solving, teamwork and communication as the youngsters play together.

Fantastic

Headteacher Andrew Clewer said: "The rain cloud water source is a fascinating feature which will instantly grab children's attention."

"Everyone will need to work in teams to pump water up to the cloud, forcing it to rain once full."

"As well as being a fun activity, this is also a fantastic way to teach children about clouds and other weather topics including droughts and floods."

The early years department is going from strength to strength mirroring the rest of the primary school, which has a total of 327 pupils.

In February 2017, Ofsted graded Landywood 'good' in all areas. In July 2017, Landywood achieved its best ever Year 6 SATS results - 85 per cent of pupils achieving the national expectation in reading, writing and maths.

Landywood's younger children also achieved impressive results - 91 per cent of Year 1 pupils achieved the national expected phonics threshold; the



From left, Lottie Poxon, aged three, Hugo Hauser, three, Aliza Hadley, four, and Charlie Knight, four, with their new water feature



Three-year-old pupils Tianna Butler, Maria Titley and Oliver Hogarth enjoy a reading session



The nursery reading club learning their letters at Landywood Primary

Early Years pupils achieved higher than the national average, making the school one of the top performing early years provisions in Staffordshire.

The early years team was identified by Ofsted as a real strength, and the integrated provision enables children from the age of three to participate in challenging, engaging, fun learning.

The report said: "Children in the early years are well supported to develop the range of skills and knowledge needed in Year 1."

"The learning environment is bright and stimulating and children are taught well." Mr Clewer said:

"Parents are able to use their 15 or 30 hours of free child care between 7.45am and 5.45pm, which we think gives them more flexibility."

"It's an exciting, stimulating learning environment where the children learn indoors and outdoors enabling them to have a good start to their education and be ready for reception," he added.

Ofsted also said: "The curriculum is designed to ensure that pupils make good progress in English and Mathematics and develop their skills and knowledge in a range of other subjects through school's creative curriculum."

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How can we afford tax rises?

I AM trying to understand how these people who are supposed to be doing what is best for the country think.

The Government has given the councils authority to raise council taxes by up to five per cent, which would put people who are already in hardship in more trouble.

Earnings have not risen by anything like that amount and everything else has gone up so how do they think people can pay these extortionate rises?

Then you have the Labour Party who if they were in power would want to change the way council tax is calculated so we would pay even more. They all must think everyone is on the extortionate amount of money they are on.

R PEATY
Wimblebury

Council has significantly reduced its costs

IN response to reports that South Staffordshire Council has a '£1.1 million black hole' and has had to 'raid its reserves', I think it's important to be clear this isn't correct ("Council tax to rise for five years", January 18).

There isn't a 'black hole', and the council has financial stability.

We have a clear, balanced budget next year and are projecting reserves

of over £2m by the end of a three-year period. Yes, it is a challenging and uncertain time for local government finance, and South Staffordshire is not immune from this.

However, we have reduced our costs significantly and kept all of our services by doing things differently. We have the fourth lowest council tax in the country for a district council and,

in context, the proposed £5 increase in council tax bills is approximately 9p per week for households. The results from our 2017 survey show we have very high levels of satisfaction from our residents with 96 per cent saying they would recommend South Staffordshire as a good place to live.

COUNCILLOR BRIAN EDWARDS
Leader, South Staffordshire Council

No doubt over vote on death penalty

WITH reference to Mr Hales's letter regarding keeping the death penalty in history (Letters, February 1).

I'm not sure Mr Hales has thought this through, and would like to know what his reaction would be, should an immediate member of his family be taken from this Earth, by whichever foul means are in people's heads these days.

Comprehensive research thought we would still stay in Europe, and if there was a referendum on the death penalty, the same comprehensive result would be forthcoming – it is one issue the Government dare not put to the country, for they know what the result would be! Nay, I'd feel a lot safer with the death penalty in place – where it belongs.

M DAVIS
Cannock

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

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story, write to The Editor, Chronicles, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

PM clearly playing the long game

IT is becoming clear that Theresa May is playing the 'long game' over Brexit.

She took nine months to trigger Article 50 and now wants to kick full Brexit further into the long grass with a near two-year 'transitional period'.

This is the leader of Brexit who voted in the referendum to remain in the EU, and even now refuses to say she would vote leave in any new referendum.

Ever likely, Brexiteers are up in arms, and the sooner the number of MPs which is needed for the 'no confidence' trigger is reached, the better.

I am sure the grassroots of the party would elect a 'leaver' and soon wrap things up.

MR T TURNER
Rugeley

Britons can expect a warm welcome

I WOULD like to reassure readers that our fellow Europeans have not forgotten the role played by the British in liberating Europe from the Nazis and freeing victims from death camps like Bergen-Belsen ("Cinema visit showed another side to Europe", January 8).

I have lived in several European countries and have witnessed first-hand the gratitude shown for Britain's contribution to defeating Fascism and have experienced the warm welcome shown to British people.

It is certainly not true that Europe is hostile towards the UK. My husband and I work in an industry where we are in regular contact with our European neighbours and can report only positive relationships. We have experienced friendship, not hostility.

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A slow and painful death

THIS week we had to put down our 11-month-old kitten. He was strong, healthy and playful. Until he ingested rat poison. This is a horrendous substance that kills animals slowly by stopping blood coagulation and causing painful internal bleeding. It has no antidote and is as much a threat to children and pets as it is to its intended targets. I urge all readers not to use this vile substance.

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Final whistle

Bookmarks as part of campaign

SI Cannock & District

AS part of their ongoing work within the issue of violence against women, Cannock Soroptimists have launched a project which is part of The Purple Teardrop Campaign, initiated and run by SI Poole.

They have produced bookmarks highlighting behaviours which are – or are not – appropriate within a relationship. One side demonstrates that the other person 'Loves Me' while the opposite side indicates the person 'Loves Me Not'.

The aim is for the bookmarks to be given to teenagers to enable them to consider how they should be treated and how they should treat others. The intention is to question what makes an appropriate relationship.

Loves Me/Loves Me Not bookmarks have been distributed to many groups and schools in Cannock and the surrounding area, including to teachers, librarians, social workers, police officers and health professionals. They contain information of how to contact Women's Aid; Pathway, the National Domestic Abuse Helpline and the police non-emergency number.

The club has also produced some posters which show Loves Me and Loves Me Not side by side.

For more details, or to obtain some of the bookmarks, visit www.sigbi.org/cannock-and-district, or www.facebook.com/SICannock or email si.cannock@outlook.com

Olivia: Lyons made a new club member



New member Olivia Lyons with Val Jones, President SI Cannock & District

PRESIDENT Val Jones was delighted to induct a new member into the Cannock Soroptimist Club. She is Olivia Lyons, a young woman in her 20s whom Val has known for a number of years.

Olivia has attended several meetings and events as a guest and felt this organisation was the right one for her to join to enable her to pursue interests with other like-minded women.

Olivia lives in Rugeley where she was educated; it was while doing her Duke of Edinburgh award at Fair Oak School she realised she had a passion to assist and help others. She built on this at university, spending any spare time volunteering alongside various

SI Cannock & District

community groups, particularly helping the vulnerable. She was elected President of the Raise and Give Society (RAG) whose sole purpose was to arrange and fundraise for various charities through fun and engaging events hosted by the RAG committee.

Olivia currently works as a case worker for Amanda Milling MP and thoroughly enjoys her role which involves meeting local constituents from all walks of life and helping them to address issues that have arisen within her own hometown.

Speaker's real Italian job

GWYNETH welcomed all to the February meeting, including two visitors.

David Keith Jones' talk on A Trip to Italy transported the ladies to warmer climes.

His photographs were stunning and he demon-

Burntwood WI

strated how, through careful editing, one's own photos could be improved. It was the perfect alternative to a very cold February evening. Colleen gave the vote of

thanks spoken in Italian. A cup of tea, cake and a raffle followed and, after the competition winners were announced, Ron's hilarious and witty Thought for the Month on the perils of Facebook had everyone laughing away.

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Girls' team engineers bid for science title



The team of six pupils with Scott Williams, director of teaching and learning at Staffordshire University Academy, and Melanie Fleet, communications manager for thyssenkrupp (UK)

AN all-female team of budding young inventors from Hednesford has teamed up with a global engineering giant as part of the MNA Stem Challenge 2018.

Aged between 13 and 14, the team of six girls from Staffordshire University Academy has partnered with thyssenkrupp (UK), the German steel group, with its UK base in Solihull and a major operation at Cradley Heath.

Overseen by Midlands News Association, publishers of

the Express & Star and Chronicle series, the STEM Challenge aims to boost pupil engagement in the fields of science, technology, engineering and maths by bringing together 25 teams from schools across the Black Country, Shropshire and Staffordshire to pit their creative skills against one another.

The contest is also a prime opportunity for students to form valuable links in the world of industry.

Banging drum for learning

THE chance to learn an instrument is music to the ears of Hednesford pupils.

Staffordshire University Academy, Marston Road, has begun to offer the lessons in the likes of violin and French horn – after teaming up with ENTRUST.

The school is also taking part in a variety of musical activities including curriculum-based lessons, vocal

groups and African drumming, and is preparing for a production of Beauty and the Beast on March 20 and 21.

Esther Humpage, head of faculty for the creative arts, said: "The students are really enjoying the musical opportunities which are being offered."

Meanwhile, SUA has introduced a new programme to help primary school students make the step up. The school is running its 'high fives' programme, enabling pupils from feeder

primaries with talent for English to prepare more easily for the switch to high school.

And, under its 'smart moves' programme, Year seven students are being encouraged to focus on the positive aspects of their life.

It is designed to encourage the youngsters to identify the positive aspects of their life and develop problem solving skills they can apply to their studies and everyday life.

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Funding for charging points goes begging

Exit tactics at the double



Fosun chairman Guo Guangchang chats to Theresa May

ONE is focused on getting out of the European Union and the other getting out of the Championship.

It was a meeting of two power-houses when Prime Minister Theresa May and Fosun supremo Guo Guangchang sat down for talks.

The pair met as part of Mrs May's visit to China where she discussed possible future trade deals – but whether the boss of the global

conglomerate that owns Wolves brought up potential Premier League imports to Wolverhampton, or whether there was an invitation to Molineux for the PM, is not known.

Mrs May was pictured smiling as she strode alongside multi-billionaire Fosun chairman and co-founder Guo Guangchang, who has attended several games at Molineux.

NOT one council in Staffordshire and the Black Country has signed up for a government-funded scheme to install electric roadside charge points for motorists.

More than £4 million is available under the On-Street Residential Scheme, which was launched in 2016.

It offers money to pay for 75 per cent of any street charge point installation, granting up to £7,500 per charger. However, no council in the West Midlands region has taken advantage of the incentive despite a 35 per cent increase in the sale of electric cars last year. Only Portsmouth, Cambridge, Luton, Kettering and Kensington & Chelsea have taken up the offer.

Green Party councillor Paul Woodhead, who sits on Cannock Chase Council, said: "If councils have the opportunity they should be taking advantage of the cash incentive." Staffordshire County Council and Walsall Council said funding offered was not enough to make the scheme viable.

Required

Councillor Helen Fisher, cabinet support member of highways and transport on Staffordshire County Council, said: "The current scheme requires 25 per cent funding from participating councils, which would need careful consideration when taking into account other financial pressures from social care to road repairs."

Councillor Lee Jeavons, portfolio holder for transport at Walsall Council, said: "The council is currently looking at identifying where funding could be allocated to take forward such a scheme."

Dudley and Sandwell councils said the scheme could be entered under a partnership with neighbouring authorities. Councillor David Hosell, cabinet member for highways and environment on Sandwell Council, said: "It's important that we develop a solution that is fit for purpose."

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MOTORCYCLE legend Steve Parrish took to the stage in Staffordshire in aid of a lifesaving charity, helping to raise nearly £3,000.

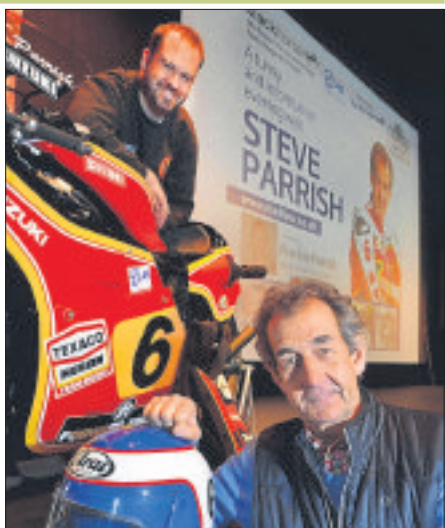
Parrish revved up the crowds with his live show at Stafford Gatehouse Theatre in aid of Shropshire Staffordshire and Cheshire Blood Bikes.

The charity's Steve Hawkes, who is from Hednesford, said: "It was a wonderful, entertaining evening, and some of the stories were just hilarious."

Part of the MAD Tour – it stands for My Adolescent Dad – the show features Parrish's daughter Frankie interviewing her father about his colourful past.

More than 300 enthusiasts were treated to stories from his motorcycling career, including the pranks and antics he pulled alongside Barry Sheene.

A memorabilia auction for a signed shirt and mounted signed picture collection raised £520.



Steve Parrish, right, with show organiser Steve Hawkes

Platform for funding plea on rail stations

THE Government's top transport chief was urged to back calls for further investment when he was given a tour of stations on the Chase Line.

Transport Secretary Chris Grayling was also able to see for himself the progress being made on the electrification of the route between Rugeley and Walsall.

He visited the Cannock, Hednesford and Rugeley stations with Cannock Chase MP Amanda Milling, who took the opportunity to raise with him some of the issues faced by passengers.

With increasing passenger numbers, she has been calling for platform extensions to accommodate longer trains as well as pressing for better station facilities. "I was really pleased and



Amanda Milling with Chris Grayling at Rugeley Trent Valley railway station

grateful that the Transport Secretary took the time to visit Cannock Chase and join me on a tour of our stations," Ms Milling said.

"As part of the visit I was able to

show him progress in terms of the electrification works which will see faster and more frequent trains, which will ease overcrowding, but I also wanted to use the visit as an opportunity to take the Transport Secretary to stations and explain to him what improvements we really need.

"One of the key issues I wanted to raise with the Transport Secretary was the lack of disabled access to the northbound platform at Rugeley Trent Valley, where passengers are faced with some steep steps to cross the railway tracks."

Ms Milling said she is also keen to see safety measures for vehicles entering and leaving the station car park and will be holding a meeting with representatives from Staffordshire County Council, Network Rail and West Midlands Trains next month.

Plea over inquiry on surgeon

PATIENTS of disgraced breast surgeon Ian Paterson have been urged to assist an inquiry into his crimes.

The Rt Rev Graham James, who is chairing the inquiry that will explore what lessons can be learned, said he was keen to hear from patients and relatives of those who died.

Paterson carried out needless operations at the Heart of England NHS Trust in Birmingham and Spire Healthcare. He was found guilty of 17 counts of wounding with intent after a trial at Nottingham Crown Court, and in August he had his initial 15-year jail term increased to 20 years.

Mr James said: "We want to hear about the issues former patients of Ian Paterson and their families would like the inquiry to consider."

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Guard of honour tribute for Normandy veteran

'THE war made him the man he was for the rest of his life, and it shaped all our family.'

A Normandy veteran's daughter has paid tribute to her father after his funeral.

Frank Corbett landed on Gold Beach during the invasion of 1944 – and was later honoured for his service with a French Legion d'Honneur medal.

Fellow Normandy veterans formed a guard of honour outside Streetly Crematorium on Thursday for the 96-year-old's final journey.

Mr Corbett, who was originally from Walsall Wood, later worked for nearly five decades as a trader selling net curtains at Cannock Indoor Market.

But it was his experiences from 1939 to 1946 which shaped his later life, according to Mr Corbett's daughter Julie Last.

Remarkable

He served as a Corporal and anti-tank gunner in the 7th Battalion, South Staffordshire Regiment, before being transferred to the Monmouthshire Regiment as his own battalion was so depleted.

Dozens of mourners, including his family and fellow veterans, attended the chapel to remember Mr Corbett.

His life was described as 'remarkable' by Rev Keith Beckingham, who said he was part of a generation that 'captured the bulldog spirit'.

Veterans formed a guard of honour as the hearse made its way to the chapel with Mr Corbett's coffin, which had the Union Flag draped over it.

Julie, 57, said: "Dad was involved with the Bren anti-tank gun and when they landed in Normandy there was 6ft of water and he only just managed to get onto the beach with his men."

"He used to say 'You don't realise



Veterans formed a guard of honour at the funeral of Normandy hero Frank Corbett



'The war made him the man he was'

the danger you're in while you're in the middle of it'. The war made him the man he was for the rest of his life, and it shaped all our family really."

He leaves behind three children – Julie and her brothers Robert, 71, and Philip, 62 – as well as nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Mr Corbett was married twice, to Edna and Lily. Julie said it was her father's



War hero Frank Corbett – 'full of fun'

keen sense of humour which marked him out. She said: "He was a real comedian and he could light up any room. He would always be teasing or joking around and was so full of fun." In his later years, Mr Corbett eagerly awaited his annual trips to Normandy to mark D-Day memorials.

He was awarded the Legion d'Honneur in 2015.

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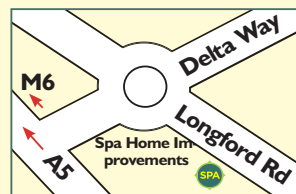
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14 Pledge to tackle modern slavery

The Chronicle Thursday, February 15, 2018

SMALL businesses are being urged to be more vigilant against Modern Day Slavery following recent incidents in Staffordshire.

Staffordshire Chamber of Commerce is supporting the fight and encouraging businesses to pledge to an awareness campaign.

The Chamber is working with the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner to encourage small businesses to sign a pledge to eradicate Modern Day Slavery within their workforce and supply chains. It comes after two women and a man were found guilty in east Staffordshire of human trafficking offences.

The Chamber will work with the Voice of Hope, an organisation supported by the OPCC, to deliver training and awareness in taking a stand against the crime.

Deputy Police & Crime Commissioner Sue Arnold, said: "All businesses need to be aware of this crime and the role they play."



Ann Graiger, Voice of hope, Sue Arnold, Deputy PCC and Adele Cope, Chamber of Commerce

We will fight for HS2 compensation – MPs

CONSERVATIVE MPs have vowed to fight for compensation for constituents affected by the 'immensely destructive' construction of HS2.

The second phase of the high-speed rail line, which is due to open in 2027, will carve through 45 miles of Staffordshire countryside on its way from the West Midlands through to Crewe once it is built.

Tory MPs Michael Fabricant, Jeremy Lefroy and Sir Bill Cash – all of them vocal opponents of HS2 – have joined forces to support their constituents during the construction phase of the project.

After being passed in Parliament last month, the HS2 bill now moves on to the committee stage, allowing MPs to amend proposals. However,



The HS2 route cannot be changed

the route cannot be changed. Lichfield MP Mr Fabricant said the three MPs would work with Staffordshire County Council in a bid to minimise disruption to communities. He pledged

to fight for 'appropriate compensation' for residents adversely affected.

He also said there was scope to change the locations of temporary features such as viaducts and construction roads to lessen the impact on communities.

"Phase 2a has less room for manoeuvre than Phase 1," he said.

"My aim will be to make sure that if we can't change the route to overcome a problem, then we do all we can to make sure constituents will get adequately compensated by HS2."

The line is set to pass through Moreton, Great Haywood, Ingestre, Staffordshire Showground, Hopton, Marston and Yarlet in Mr Lefroy's Stafford constituency.

Stone MP Sir Bill said the line would have an 'immensely destructive effect' in his constituency.

Plans now awaiting decisions

PLANNING applications received by Lichfield District Council include:

46 Norton Lane, Burntwood – erection of four-bedroom detached dwelling and associated works (amendment to application).

19 Park Road, Burntwood – single-storey extension to form entrance lobby.

3 Rowan Drive, Handsacre – single-storey extension to form kitchen / dining area, including demolition of existing conservatory.

3 Trent Close, Burntwood – garage conversion to form cloakroom, store room and WC; replacement of existing side window.

Woodhouse Farm, Pipe Lane, Pipe Ridware – erection of agricultural building for general storage.

Comments must be received by March 5.

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We're aiming to be more visible

POLICING is always in the news. You will have read Staffordshire's Police and Crime Commissioner commit to increasing the police portion of council tax by about 95p per month.

You may also have read that we have launched a new approach to policing non-emergency and non-urgent calls through something called a Resolution Centre.

It's the first of many changes to the way we police the county that will improve our service and make us more efficient.

The Resolution Centre will enable us to respond more swiftly to those calls where physically deploying an officer is unnecessary.

Improve

Having worked in policing for more than 30 years I know that change can be contentious – but our new Resolution Centre is already significantly improving the way we respond to incidents in Stoke, the Moorlands and Newcastle-under-Lyme where it is currently operational. By summer 2018, the Resolution Centre will expand to cover the whole county.

Creating a Resolution Centre not only enables us to improve the way we police but it frees up investment for those areas of policing that the public most want.

Police budgets remain extremely squeezed – overall funding is still reducing – and we have to adapt our services to meet ever more complex and challenging crime.

As part of the changes that I'm implementing, more resources will be put in place to support neighbour-



With planned changes to funding for the county's force and the launch of its Resolution Centre, the Chief Constable of Staffordshire, **GARETH MORGAN**, sets out here his vision for the future

hoods, community-based officers and PCSOs.

This will remain the bedrock of policing in Staffordshire and will see us being more visible. I know that this matters to you.

Alongside this I'm also planning to invest funding to increase investigators responsible for tackling our most

serious and complex cases – whether that's child abuse, sexual assaults or other types of serious crime.

This investment will lead to better outcomes for victims of these offences.

I have also published our operational Policing Plan.

This sets out clearly our priorities for the next 12 months, and which my officers and staff will be focusing on.

The Plan outlines how we will deliver a more modern police service, intervene earlier to prevent crime, improve support for victims and witnesses, increase public confidence, and reduce offending and reoffending.

While the Plan sets out priorities for the force, and those who work in it, I hope it makes clear to those we serve our intention to improve our service to you. I would encourage you all to have a read of this on our website.

Having a Plan is critically important when the funding of public services is tight.

Since austerity began, the police, as well as other public services, have had to tighten their belts.

The latest financial settlement has given us the opportunity to invest in areas that you hold important, but it has not relaxed the pressure and the need to think differently about how we deliver our services.

But this doesn't mean we can't do things better.

Over the coming year, I will keep you updated on the changes we are making and how these are improving the way we work.

Most importantly I want to hear from you, when it is going well and when it isn't. Public need remains at the heart of our service, and ensuring we get things right for victims of crime, our key concern.

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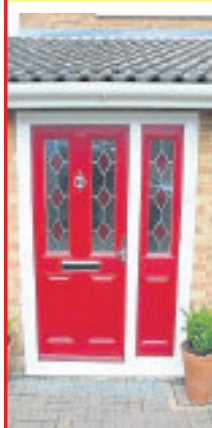


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COMMERCIAL FEATURE

Hard work pays off as school builds on successful merger

The Hart School in Rugeley, Staffordshire, is amongst the schools in the county which are celebrating their 2016/17 results.

The school was formed following the closure of Hagley Park Academy and the pupils joined the pupils at the successful Fair Oak Academy in September 2016, renaming the school 'The Hart School'.

The vision for the new school was to instil the high expectations and aspirations which existed at the former grammar school to all of the students attending The Hart School.

Challenges

Bringing together two separate communities was one of the greatest challenges the school faced but, following significant re-organisation, strengthening of the quality of teaching being offered and with a dedicated pastoral team in place to support the transition, the school has been able to see its results steadily climbing.

The main accountability measure in 2017 was Progress 8. The pupils from the former Fair Oak school have continued to achieve well with an above average progress score of +0.15, whilst the Progress 8 score for the former Hagley Park Academy students improved significantly from 2016 for those pupils who completed Year 11 as part of the new Hart School.

Attainment for both sets of pupils rose once more, with the former Fair Oak



The school aims to instil high expectations and aspirations in pupils

Academy students, whose attainment has consistently been above the national average, increasing the margin still further to 49.5pts above national average. Another key area of success for the school has been in its sixth form provision, with the proportion of A/A* grades at A-level increasing from five per cent in 2016 to 15 per cent in 2017.

The merger of these two schools has had a positive impact upon education in the town, and the focus of all

decisions have been wholly to improve the standard of education available to the young people of Rugeley.

The improved achievement, behaviour and attendance of the former Hagley Park students, paired with the consistent improvement of the former Fair Oak students, has been an undoubted academic success, and the school is excited to move forward and work yet further upon the successes they have gained.

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Awards will recognise dedication to dignity

Care campaign launched



From left, training coordinator Jo Boothby, senior caregiver Maxine Griffiths, caregiver Dawn Roberts, business owner Frances Sayer and senior caregiver Caroline Edwards

CANNOCK care boss Frances Sayer has launched a campaign to address the local shortage of care workers.

Frances, who owns and runs the Cannock office of home care provider Home Instead Senior Care, will be raising awareness, banishing pre-conceived ideas about what caring is all about, as well as informing people about just how rewarding working in care can be.

According to Skills for Care, the strategic body for workforce development in adult social care in England, there are 90,000 vacancies in the social care sector at any given time.

The ageing population has created a 'huge' requirement for care services, and Frances says the na-

tional picture is reflected in the local area. Home Instead, which specialises in care for older people in their own homes, is hoping to fill 100 vacancies in 2018 to keep pace with demand.

Speaking about the launch of the You Can Care campaign, Frances said: "Our team will be sharing reflections and pictures taken throughout their day via social media, to show how the role of a caregiver is perhaps a little different to how it might be perceived."

"We hope that the hashtag #youcancare, which will also offer tips and links, may also provide some support and solidarity to the hundreds of people caring for family members in the local area."

PEOPLE are being invited to nominate carers, work colleagues, friends and family members who put dignity at the heart of everything they do for a special award.

Staffordshire County Council's Dignity in Care Awards, now in their sixth year, recognises services and individuals who ensure people in care are treated with dignity and respect.

Among the categories this year are Community Carer of the Year, Young Dignity Champion, Informal Carer of the Year and Leadership Award.

Councillor Alan White, deputy leader at Staffordshire County Council and cabinet member for health, care and wellbeing, said: "Our Dignity in Care Awards give us a great opportunity to celebrate and thank the thousands of carers who do a wonderful job, always going that extra mile for the people they look after."

Encourage

"This year we want nominations from organisations and individuals, and both formal and informal carers of all ages."

"So whether you know someone caring for a family member or neighbour, working in the sector, or a really caring organisation, then please get them nominated."

The awards are running alongside a major recruitment campaign to encourage more people to join the sector.

Councillor White added: "We want to encourage people to take up a career in caring – it is an extremely rewarding profession, and the work can fit around other commitments in people's lives. There is also a lot of training and development available for people who want to make it a career."

Further details and nomination forms are available at www.staffordshire.gov.uk/dignityincare or on 01785 355795. The closing date for nominations is Friday, May 25.

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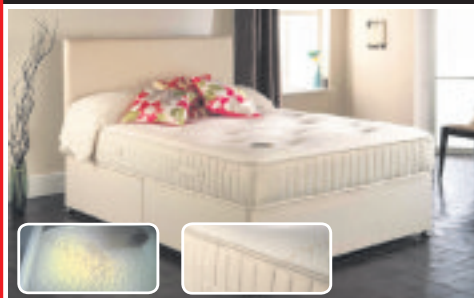
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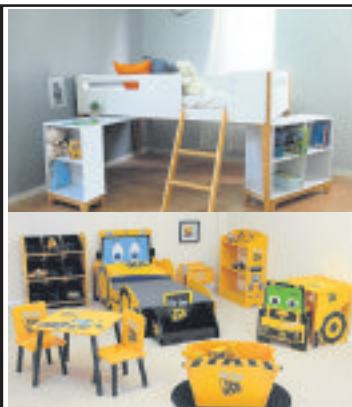
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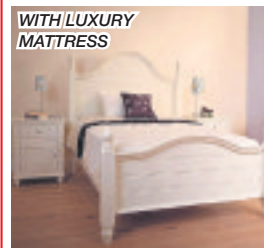


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COMMERCIAL FEATURE

Strong reputation based on a well-rounded education

The recently published national league tables confirmed that Erasmus Darwin Academy continues to be one of the highest performing schools in Staffordshire and indeed within the West Midlands region.

The academy's performance in 2017 continued the trend of GCSE results being significantly above the national average, with 76 per cent of students gaining a grade 4-9 (the new A*-C equivalent) in English and maths.

And, according to the league tables, the attainment 8 score and the progress 8 score placed Erasmus Darwin Academy seventh out of 115 Staffordshire secondary schools.

Excellent

A-level results were similarly strong, with sixth form students enjoying a 100 per cent pass rate and gaining more A*-B grades than ever.

Erasmus Darwin Academy is a highly popular school with an extremely strong reputation, but this reputation is not just based upon excellent examination results.

It is also based upon the well-rounded educational provision that the young people receive within an extremely caring and friendly environment.

Principal of Erasmus Darwin Academy, Mark Maydew stated: "I am immensely proud of the ongoing tradition of academic excellence at Erasmus Darwin Academy.

"However, I am equally proud of



Staff and students work together on a daily basis to pursue excellence

the way in which we build upon the academic success of our young people by helping them gain those broader skills and experiences which equip them for their adult lives in modern Britain."

He added: "Furthermore, I am constantly inspired by the positive, respectful and caring way in which our staff and students work together on a daily basis to pursue excellence in all areas of school life."



GCSE and A Level results in 2017 were excellent yet again.

Congratulations to all staff and students for their contributions to the continued success of Erasmus Darwin Academy

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Recruitment drive as finance firm grows



Business partners Steve Bennett, left, and David Phillips, of Cannock firm Wealth Design

A FINANCIAL services company in Cannock has celebrated its third year in business by expanding to bigger offices and taking on new staff.

Business partners David Phillips of Lichfield and Steve Bennett of Telford, who previously worked together at another Midlands financial services firm, launched their own venture, Wealth Design in 2015.

The pair set up business in Virage Point, off Green Lane, with a staff of two and have grown steadily ever since, currently employing a team of 12 and expanding its Lagoda Suite office space by two thirds in the last few months.

The specialist financial advice firm last year won the title of 'Micro Business of the Year' in the Express & Star Business Awards for companies with 10 employees or fewer.

The firm has further offices at Streetly, Sutton Coldfield, and covers an area including Staffordshire, the West Midlands, Shropshire and Mid Wales.

Force joins campaign to prevent knife crime

STAFFORDSHIRE Police are focusing on catching people using and carrying knives and educating youngsters, to tackle the growing number of incidents.

As with nearly all forces, the county has seen a repeated rise in knife crime year-on-year, with a 15.7 per cent increase last year, and a 30 per cent rise the year before.

This week, officers are taking part in the national Operation Sceptre campaign aimed at tackling knife crime. Supt Ricky Fields, head of operational services at Staffordshire Police, said: "We tackle the issue of knives every week of the year, but we are hopeful that this week we can help to stop the increasing trend of knife crime in Staffordshire and further afield."

"There will be lots of positive action from us and partners across the county to demonstrate how dangerous knives are and the consequences of carrying them, using them or just being in a group of people that use them."

"If you know someone that chooses to use or carry

By David Banner

a knife, please call 101 in confidence or, for guaranteed anonymity, call Crime-stoppers on 0800 555 111."

The campaign, which runs until tomorrow (Friday), involves high-visibility patrols in areas where knife crime is more common, increased stop checks and stop searches where powers allow, and police visiting schools and youth groups to talk about the dangers of knife crime.

In response to local intelligence, there will also be an increased number of 'knife sweeps' where searches are carried out for concealed weapons. The force will also be posting crime prevention updates and information on successful knife arrests.

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BURNTWOOD Music For All welcome former Royal Marines Bandsman and Royal Yacht Britannia resident Martin Orbidans in concert today (Thursday) at 7.30pm.

As usual, the venue will be the Burntwood Memorial Hall, in Rugeley Road, Burntwood.

Orbidans has made something of a name for himself as a very talented pianist and organist as well as being a funny man, trumpet player and all round nice guy.

Billed as true 'Music For All' and a show not to be missed, tickets are £7.50 on the door, there are interval refreshments, a bar, plentiful parking and good disabled access. Call Marie Powell on 01530 274270.

Common in line for cash

STAFFORDSHIRE Wildlife Trust hopes to bag a cash boost from Tesco to restore fire-damaged areas at Gentleshaw Common.

The firm has teamed up with Groundwork on its Bags of Help community funding scheme, and three groups in every Tesco region have been shortlisted to receive a cash award.

Shoppers can vote at the Rugeley branch of Tesco.

FOCUS ON BURNTWOOD

Nursery group to open 40 pre-schools in China

By David Cosgrove

A NURSERY group based in Burntwood will open nearly 40 pre-schools in China over the next five years, it has been announced.

Busy Bees Nursery Group, which started in 1984, will initially offer more than 200 school places to families in Shanghai before expanding into other key cities.

The nursery will work alongside a Chinese partner - Oriental Cambridge Education Group - to put the plans in place.

The deal is due to generate almost £75 million over five years and will create new jobs as well as 20 overseas teaching roles for British teachers in the next year alone.

Its announcement comes as Prime Minister Theresa May vowed to intensify the 'Golden Era' in UK-China relations during her ongoing trip to the Far East.

Busy Bees is one of 50 businesses and organisations that have accompanied the Prime Minister on her visit, taking in Wuhan, Beijing and Shanghai.

Mrs May said: "It is exciting to see such an ambitious British company exploring lucrative new international opportunities."

The expansion programme was announced by John Woodward OBE, Busy Bees founder and president, who has been part of the UK delegation accompanying the PM. The group took its first steps into the Chinese market last year when it opened a pre-school for 200 students in Harbin, following successful moves into Singapore, Malaysia and Canada.



Pamela Stokes, chairman of Burntwood Town Council, 'cuts the ribbon' watched by, from left, Helen Gerrard, store manager Andrew Figgitt and Councillor Keith Stokes

Charities well-fixed for funding

REGISTERED charities in Burntwood are being invited to apply for funding following the launch of a new Screwfix outlet.

Pamela Stokes, chairman of Burntwood Town Council, assisted at the opening of the store on Burntwood Business Park.

Store manager Andrew Figgitt said: "Many of our new customers previously shopped at our Cannock and Walsall Wood stores, so we're delighted to bring Screwfix even closer to them."

Charities are able to apply to the Screwfix Foundation, which supports community projects by providing donations.

Details are available by visiting the branch to pick up a leaflet or by downloading an application form from the company's website.

Hunters in launch of new branch



Mark Price and Cherry Price of Hunters Burntwood

HUNTERS has opened a new branch in Chase Terrace, adding to its network of estate agents.

After opening its first office in York in 1992, the company launched its first franchising branch in 2006 and now has more than 200 branches nationwide.

Mark Price, managing director of Hunters Burntwood, said: "The company's success is built around excellent customer service and unrivalled proactivity, values and beliefs."

The new Hunters branch is at 1 Bridge Cross Road.

Media roles to be filled

CATS Protection's Lichfield & Tamworth branch is looking to recruit a volunteer publicity officer and a social media volunteer to help raise its profile.

The charity can provide assistance and training.

Anyone interested in either role should email bsusne@cats.org.uk or call 01825 741995.

The deadline for applications is Sunday, April 1.

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WOLVERHAMPTON MAGAZINE

New directors join
as growth continues



From left, new ide group sales director Kevin Wayne and operations director Gary Lowerson

TEMPORARY power providers the ide group has welcomed two new directors as it celebrates a strong year of growth.

Gary Lowerson joins as operations director for ide Rental, the group's hire division. Lowerson has a history within the temporary power market, previously holding a senior management position at major tool hire company Speedy Services. He will be directly involved in improving the operational capability of hire operations.

"I am very happy to be joining the ide Group at this exciting time," he said.

Joining him will be Kevin Warne as group sales director leading both rental and manufacturing sales. Warne previously held senior sales roles at large multinational companies such as Aggreko and Hewden Industrial.

"ide is a forward-thinking business that is constantly developing new products to create opportunities for our customers and the wider market," he said.

Recruitment drive after firm wins major deals

A RUGELEY spraybooth manufacturing firm is marking its 30th anniversary with a string of major contracts and a recruitment drive.

Director Lee Todd said Todd Engineering, of Armitage Road, was aiming to take on another 10 to 15 people to boost its 50-strong workforce.

Sheet metal workers, installation engineers, electricians and secretarial staff are all being recruited. Visit todengineering.co.uk

By Simon Penfold

The success comes on the back of the company's most successful year to date, with work from one of the UK's biggest car dealership groups. Todd Engineering's work is also in demand in Italy and in the Middle East.

Pilot

Mr Todd, who founded and runs the business with his fellow director brother Chris, said Todd Engineering had started working with the Pendragon group two years ago on a series of pilot projects, installing paint spraybooths at 20 of its dealerships. The company includes the Evans Halshaw and Stratstone brands. The success of this

project had now seen Pendragon commission Todd Engineering on a £1.5 million project to install new spraybooth facilities across its network over the next two years.

The company last year posted record turnover of £4.5 million and has built a strong name in the Middle East, with work successfully completed in Bahrain and Dubai, while a three-month installation project has been secured for multi-brand car dealers Behbehani Motors in Kuwait.

Another team is working on completing a large super yacht spraybooth, 30 metres long, for Italian company Cantieri Di Imperia, in northern Italy.



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Knifeman sentenced to 18 years for rampage

A DRUG-crazed knifeman who went on the rampage and left a trail of bloodshed and devastation in his wake has been jailed for 18 years.

Renroy Johnson injured eight people, two of them seriously, staged two robberies, threatened police with a knife and crashed into an ambulance in a stolen car.

The violence started around 3pm on October 30, 2016 when Johnson attacked Jake Fletcher, an innocent man walking down the street, before bursting into McColls newsagent in Shannon Drive, close to his Tamar Close, Brownhills home, said Mr Andrew Jackson, prosecuting, at Wolverhampton Crown Court.

Cocktail

The 33-year-old assaulted shop assistant Julie Maskell and Dean Oakes, a customer who came to her aid, before fleeing with around £540 cash.

Johnson - who had taken a cocktail of illicit drugs - returned to the flat block where he lived but went upstairs to break into another flat, attacking both Kevin Leighton, 55, and his 28-year-old son Liam.

Mr Jackson said: "Kevin was stabbed several times in the chest before he had time to react but managed to jump out of a first floor window, breaking a bone in his back."

Liam, who was in a different room, heard the commotion, and as he went to investigate was stabbed several times in the abdomen and across the head. He escaped downstairs and out of the flats before collapsing with wounds to his shoulder, scalp and abdomen.

Mr Jackson said Johnson then raced across the road to another block of



Emergency services following the scene of Johnson's destruction

flats where he kicked open the door to Collette Cathy's home, threatened her and stole the keys to her Renault Clio. He drove off but in Wilkin Road crashed head-on into an ambulance responding to the stabbing.

Johnson fled on foot but was cornered by two police officers and tried to escape by throwing his knife at them. They had to Taser him twice before he could be arrested. The £540 stolen from the newsagent was stuffed in one of his pockets. Mr Graeme Logan, de-

fending, said the trigger was the use of illicit drugs. He said Johnson's mental health had been fragile since the death of his father in 2002 and the loss of his sister seven years later.

Johnson pleaded guilty to one count of attempted murder, one of wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm, three assault charges, robbing Alex Hemmings of £540 and Collette Cathy of car keys and a motor vehicle, dangerous driving, affray and possession of a knife.

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Beating elements to install defibrillator



Patrick Wigley, left, with Minister, Rev Meg Slingo and congregation members with the defibrillator

A SNOW storm, high winds and lashing rain could not stop a hardy group of volunteers from installing a defibrillator at a Cheslyn Hay church.

The life-saving equipment has been erected on the wall of the Salem, in High Street. Church member Patrick Wigley said: "We had seen the efforts of a small volunteer group in Great Wyrley installing this essential equipment."

"We agreed that, if at all possible, we wanted to do

the same." The community rallied, and support from defibrillator charity Community Heartbeat Trust enabled the equipment to be installed at the church.

Patrick is arranging a series of training sessions led by trained personnel for the public to use the equipment.

These are from 7-9m on February 27 and 28 and on March 6 in the Salem lecture room.

Call Patrick on 07849 367188 for more details.

Plea for first-love photo

A MOTHER has embarked on a sentimental quest to track down a photograph of her first love.

Judith Day, aged 60, was engaged to Robert Bissell at 17. She knew his family in the late 1960s when they lived in York Avenue, Wolverhampton.

Formerly known as Judy Ray, she wants a photo of her old flame for a scrapbook.

The pair parted ways while still teenagers, and she heard that Mr Bissell had died young in the 1990s.

Mrs Day, formerly of Penn, but now living in Church Eaton, near Stafford, said: "Bob and his friend wanted to explore the world and they set off.

I was supposed to travel out to Zambia to marry, as that is where they decided to stay for a while.

"To cut a long story short it was not meant to be and Bob met someone else and married. However, I heard he passed away.

"I would dearly like a photo of Bob. He still holds a very special place in my heart as my first real love at 17," she added.

"I married and had a family but I have some very lovely memories, but no photo."

Divorced Mrs Day, who has a son Benjamin, believes Robert's sister Judith is a survivor of the family and would like to make contact. Email megan.archer@expressandstar.co.uk

NEWS IN BRIEF

Barry the speaker at history meeting

CHESLYN Hay & District Local History Society will welcome Barry Picken as guest speaker at their meeting on Thursday, February 22 at 7.30pm.

The title of his talk is 'Red Flowers and a Bag of Old Bones'. Admission to the meeting at the Salem, in High Street, Cheslyn Hay, is £1 including refreshments. Call 01922 410021.

One in a Million show for hospice

POPULAR comedian Hal Cruttenden is to hold a #ONEINAMILLION show at the Lichfield Garrick on March 23 in aid of The Donna Louise.

All net proceeds from the show will be donated to the Trentham children's hospice, which has launched a fund-raising appeal, One in a Million. Call 01543 412121 for details and tickets.

Conservatives in by-election win

CONSERVATIVE Party candidate Bob Spencer has won the Codsall seat at Staffordshire County Council.

He was elected at a by-election held on Thursday following the death of Tory councillor Robbie Marshall. Turnout was 19.6 per cent. The result maintains the Tories' 51 seats, with Labour 10 and one Independent.

Jobs fair in Rugeley

A JOBS fair is to be held at the Rugeley Rose Theatre on April 20, from 10am until 1pm. The aim is to help put hundreds of jobseekers directly in touch with local employers. To register to exhibit, call 01543 877142.

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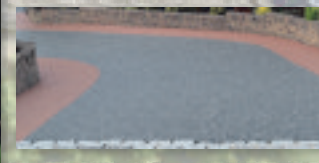
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Oh Mamma – Fiona does Grand job on dress duty

IN 1999, she started as a dresser – now two decades on, Fiona Whitehouse is the head of wardrobe behind the Mamma Mia! production.

The musical is being shown for the next three weeks at Wolverhampton Grand, as part of the show's first UK tour.

For Fiona, it is a homecoming as the Grand was where she first started out. Now she is in charge of the dresses and costumes that the actors wear on stage. Fiona said: "I have been involved with the production for three years, but it is the first time we have come to the Grand."

"It is great to be here as Wolverhampton is my home town. I worked my way up from a dresser and now I'm head of wardrobe – there is lots of organising involved and you have to be on top of everything."

Identity

Mamma Mia! is set on a Greek island and tells a story of love, friendship and identity – told through songs by Swedish pop group Abba. It runs at Wolverhampton's Grand until this Saturday.

Fiona said: "The show is brilliant. At the end of the night, you feel this wave of energy from the audience when you are backstage."

"It is also great watching the show on rare occasions from the seats."

Mamma Mia! has been shown at international venues for the past 13 years, and is currently on its first UK tour.

The musical production has been written by Abba stars Benny Andersson and Bjorn Ulvaeus.

The show includes the band's biggest hits such as Super Trouper, Lay



Fiona Whitehouse head of wardrobe



Displaying one of the many outfits



Putting finishing touches to one of the 1970s-inspired costumes

All Your Love on Me, Thank You for the Music and Money, Money, Money.

And no doubt fans will be singing along to the well-known Dancing Queen, Knowing Me, Knowing You, Take a Chance on Me, and of course the title track.

It has been seen by more than 60 million people around the world and a film version – starring Meryl Streep,

Colin Firth, Pierce Brosnan, Amanda Seyfried and Julie Walters – proved a huge hit after it was released in 2008.

The stage show is described as 'the world's sunniest and most exhilarating smash-hit musical'.

A promotional statement says: "This irresistibly funny show has been thrilling audiences all around the world."



A scene from hit musical Mamma Mia! which is staged this week at the Grand Picture: Brinkhoff Mögenburg

Hit jukebox musical is simply Abba-tastic

Mamma Mia!

Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton

MAMMA Mia! bursts onto the Wolverhampton Grand Theatre stage with feather boas, flippers, sequins and snorkels, proving that the mother of all jukebox musicals is still the global phenomenon it promised to be when it hit the stage for the first time back in 1999.

This production is polished, drilled and disciplined and yet still gives the impression of being as realistic and relaxed as the Greek island on which it is set.

Caroline Johnson's wacky storyline is never going to win any literary awards and yet somehow, she man-

ages keep you guessing and to stir emotions, resulting in a massively uplifting, inspiring, heart-warming evening's entertainment that even the most cynical musical theatre-phobe would enjoy.

Single mom Donna and her only daughter Sophie own a run-down taverna under the beautiful Greek sunny skies. Curious about her parentage, bride-to-be Sophie decides to invite three of Donna's old flames to her wedding, in the hope that she can identify her real father.

The world-wide hit songs of Swedish supergroup ABBA reign supreme throughout the show, including Thank You For The Music; Honey, Honey;

Dancing Queen; SOS; Knowing Me; Knowing You; Money, Money, Money and of course the title song to name but a few. Did I mention it is a jukebox musical? The audience knew every line.

Helen Hobson, though not the strongest vocalist, certainly captures the personality of wild child Donna, wringing every drop of comedy out of the script, while Rebecca Seale is uninhibited and amusing as Rosie. Emma Clifford is sensationally sassy as Tanya.

Mamma Mia! is a delight and Thank You For The Music. It runs at the Grand until Saturday, February 24.

ALISON NORTON

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Carpets Direct 2U is owned by Robert and Mandy Freeman, and their son Richard. The Freeman family have been serving customers throughout the Walsall and West Midlands area for four generations. Their years of retail experience have helped them to identify a niche in the market and come up with an idea that allows them to buy and sell carpets to the public at discounted prices.

Carpets Direct 2U is easily accessible to everyone in the area with retail premises in Aldridge and Pelsall and a huge warehouse in Norton Canes which is open to the public and has thousands of rolls in stock ready for customers to take away. Most recently, Carpets Direct 2U is proud to have opened a new retail store at 10 Cannock Road, Swan Island, Burntwood where the family look forward to serving both existing and new customers in Burntwood and the surrounding areas.

Carpets Direct 2U has established a reputation for providing customers with good service and quality floor coverings, priced to suit everyone's pocket.

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Everyone's tastes are different whether it be 100% wool carpets or 100% polypropylene stain resistant carpets. The one thing every customer wants is quality carpets at the best possible price and that's what we give at Carpets Direct 2U," adds Robert.

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Rich history – the village of Worfield

Picture: Ray Farlow



Wartime Worfield visitor General Patton



General Sir Oliver Leese was one of Worfield's most distinguished residents



Jane – fulfilled a promise over book

Family milk feud from author's days in county

SOON after their arrival in Shropshire, the family of celebrated humorist and novelist P.G. Wodehouse, became embroiled in a "milk war" with a nearby family.

Wodehouse spent his teenage years at the Old House at Stableford, near Bridgnorth, and according to Perton writer Jane Smith, who has penned a new book about the history of the Worfield parish, some of the locals must have found their way into his books, albeit with changed names.

Wodehouse, who was known as Plum, told one interviewer of the family feud over milk. "We quarrelled with them two days after we arrived and never spoke to them again. It was milk that caused the rift. At least they said it was milk... and we said it was skim-milk."

Jane said Wodehouse's father moved to the Old House in 1895 after retiring from the Hong Kong Civil Service. Plum was at boarding school but

MEMORY LANE

By Toby Neal

came home in the holidays, and later went to work in a bank, writing novels in his spare time.

The Wodehouse family left Stableford in 1905. Jane's book is called "Worfield: The History of a Shropshire Parish From Earliest Times," and her researches have uncovered fascinating aspects of the parish's history, including a wartime visit by 'Old Blood and Guts' – the charismatic and controversial American general George Patton. American troops were in camp at Davenport Park and he came to give them a morale-boosting pep talk in advance of D-Day.

"About 15,000 men assembled for Patton's speech," says Jane. "In addition to the men from Camp Davenport – about 1,500 – regiments were shipped in from Kinlet, around Bewdley and around Leominster.

"Patton was there to rally the troops

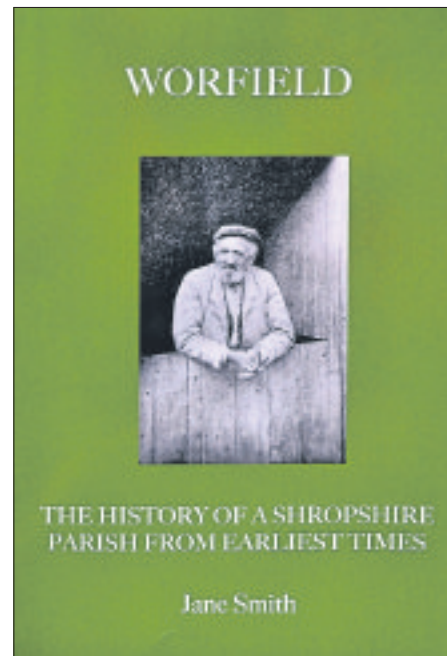
before they went into action and he did not disappoint. He spoke of survival, not sacrifice, and the pride the soldiers would feel in the part they had played in the war.

"Sadly, of course, many of the troops Patton spoke to on that day in Worfield paid the ultimate sacrifice and never returned home."

Another military connection was one of the most prominent residents in Worfield's history, another war hero, General Sir Oliver Leese, one of Montgomery's favourite generals. "He was a great man and the people in the village adored him."

In completing her book, Jane has fulfilled a vow she made as a young woman. "When I was at university I did historical geography. My thesis was about Worfield. There are very few books written about the history of Worfield and I vowed when I was 21, believe it or not, that I would do a history of Worfield. I'm now 72."

Jane, maiden name is Kirkland, now lives at The Paddock, Perton, Wolverhampton, but hails from the parish.



The book on Worfield by Jane Smith

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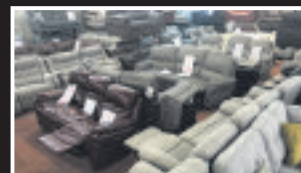
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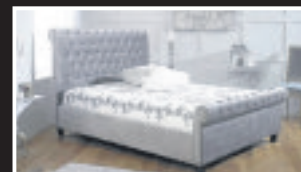
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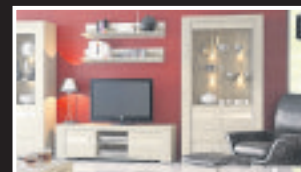
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ESPECIALLY FOR YOU – JASON HITS THE ROAD

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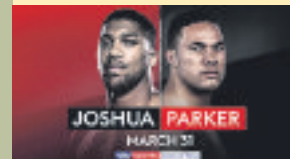
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I'll share secrets of my showbiz life

Aussie heartthrob Jason Donovan won't pull any punches when he lines up at Birmingham Town Hall on Wednesday to talk about His Amazing Midlife Crisis.

The man who shot to fame in Neighbours, dated Kylie, had the best-selling album of 1989 and thrilled vast West End audiences in Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat – before starring on I'm A Celebrity Get Me Out Of Here and Strictly Come Dancing – will be starring in his first spoken word show.

Not that fans will be deprived of the hits. Jason will be performing a selection of his biggest songs in an acoustic setting.

And nothing will be off limits when he takes to the stage for the 90-minute show – including his relationships, his former cocaine habit and more.

"I'm really looking forward to doing this tour. It's something new, something I've not done before and something that the fans are looking forward to.

"There'll be music, there'll be stories, there'll be things people have never seen before and there'll be the chance for them to interact. It's a real up-close-and-personal sort of show. I can't wait."

Jason will reflect on his time in Neighbours during the show, chatting about his time as Scott Robinson and explaining how that character still travels with him.

"When we were on the Ten Good Reasons tour, we had a massive show at Hammersmith. There was a lot of expectation with it being the London show. We asked Kylie if she could come and join us but she wasn't around.

"Then, sitting with the crew in catering one night, someone said 'Have you thought about getting a Labrador on stage?' They were referencing Bouncer from Neighbours, of course.

"We all laughed and thought it would be a funny idea to introduce someone that was petite and blonde, one of the members of the Neighbours cast – and then Bouncer walks on. So we'd teased everyone that it might be Kylie, but actually Bouncer turned up.

"Finding a dog that looked like Bouncer at the last minute proved difficult. It's not like you can audition a dog. And let me tell you, hiring a dog isn't cheap. Anyway, we booked a Bouncer lookalike.

"And then we got a call on the day of the show to say that Lookalike Bouncer was ill so they were sending an identical Stunt Lookalike Bouncer. Suddenly Bouncer had turned from a meat eating well rounded canine to a slim and petite Jenny Craig lookalike.

"Anyway the dog came on stage WITH its owner which wasn't what I expected. I had thought the dog would wander on and over to me. But it didn't. It forgot it was supposed to be Bouncer and started being a sniffer dog wondering if there were any treats in the stage."

Jason has spent a lifetime in the public eye and has learned to deal with fame. And in Jason Donovan and His Amazing Midlife Crisis he will explain how he's handled it.

"I never got into this business to be famous. It was a by-product of what I do, what I'm passionate about. However, that's not to say I



Too many broken hearts – Jason reveals all about his past

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haven't enjoyed most parts of my fame. Look I came from Australia, where it was relatively calm, and then I came here and it was insane.

"I found Joseph particularly challenging because of the workload, being in a theatre and the responsibilities of leading a cast eight shows a week. It was really claustrophobic. But other things happen and you start to not take this whole game too seriously. Today I can deal with it but back then I found the intensity of it all difficult."

Jason will also talk about his rebellious 1990s, when he went off the rails. "The 90s was about rebellion. You find a lot of famous people rebel against their own image particularly if they've feel like they can't even control their own image. I was trying to be cool in the 90s, but in fact I came to realise there is no such thing as cool, no such thing."

"I had photographers chasing me around the world. It was just mad. There were people following me into the toilet to get an autograph."

These days, Jason is happily married with three kids and likes to

Finding a dog that looked like Bouncer at the last minute proved difficult

combine work with downtime, so that he can spend time with his family. He'll talk about their importance and the way they help him to keep his feet on the ground.

"As long as the kids are getting tickets to Ed Sheeran, Sam Smith, Beyoncé, Coldplay or Chainsmokers through my contacts, then they're happy. There are some great moments that come about because of doing this. It was incredible meeting Prince William at a Gary Barlow show, for instance.

"And the reaction from Strictly was amazing. I think the kids were embarrassed when I signed up for that – but as soon as I started winning they didn't think it was so bad after all."

● Jason will also take his show to Telford's Oakengates Theatre on May 8 and Stafford's Gatehouse Theatre on May 9.

● For more entertainment news and reviews see The Ticket in your Express & Star every Friday.

The Winslow Boy at the Rep



Tessa's no fool to take on role in play about justice

IT WAS written just after the Second World War. But Terence Rattigan's *The Winslow Boy* feels as relevant today as it must have done back then.

With its themes of honesty and honour – allied to an imperfect justice system – it still resonates.

The latest revival of the play is heading to Birmingham Rep from February 21 to March 3 and is being directed by the Rep's former artistic director Rachel Kavanaugh, starring Tessa Peake-Jones, best known for *Only Fools and Horses*, and Aden Gillett.

It focuses on the story of a young man, Ronnie Winslow, who is expelled from the Royal Navy College for stealing a five-shilling postal order. His entire family are pulled apart by the repercussions.

Set in Edwardian London, the Winslow family fight to clear his name or face social ostracism as the case becomes a national scandal. Based on a real-life event, *The Winslow Boy* is a window into the class and political hypocrisy of the time.

"It's about family. Do they rally round?" said Tessa, who plays the boy's mother. "Grace, my character, has a real meltdown and wonders why they are going on with it. They are losing money all the time on the court case with huge solicitors' bills. She finds it hard to justify it and she has a point."

"But it's a moral dilemma. Do you give in because it's easier to give in and live a quiet life and don't make a fuss. Or, do you fight on, morally, because you want to prove a point. I think it's still very relevant today."

Sunjay sings the blues at folk gig



Up-and-coming blues and folk musician Sunjay is playing a gig in Kingswinford next week.

Described as the the antithesis of your typical denim-clad, dishevelled folk and blues musician, Sunjay, pictured, has perfectly groomed hair, shining winkle picker boots and looks every inch the city slicker. However, when the Stourbridge man starts to play the guitar and sing, music fans are transported to a world where blues and country music meld seamlessly amidst humid mangrove swamps.

He will play at The Woodman

Folk Club, Ashwood Marina, Kingswinford, tomorrow night (Friday).

Sunjay's earliest memories are, as a four-year old, learning Buddy Holly songs from his dad. During 2017, Sunjay played Buddy Holly, in Simon Fielder's travelling theatre show of *Buddy Holly & The Crickets*, a role he was offered when he went for an audition in London as a backing singer and guitarist. He recently released an album *Sunjay Sings Buddy*.

Next Sunjay, whose full name is Sunjay Brain, is supporting folk stars Kathryn Roberts and Sean Lakeman on a UK tour, which

comes to the Midland Arts Centre in Edgbaston on April 19.

He has also recorded a new album of his own songs to be released later this year.

Still only in his mid-20s, Sunjay has become a master guitarist, who has crafted his show to perfection.

An evening with Sunjay is an evening of exquisite blues, country and folk combined with a master class in guitar playing interspersed with hilarious anecdotes – and even the occasional Buddy Holly song.

The Kingswinford gig starts at 8.30pm. Tickets are £7 and £8. For more details call (01384) 560462.

Say Hello to jazz singer Irit at Glee

Israeli jazz singer Irit will showcase her new album *Hello* at Birmingham's Glee Club on Monday.

The songwriter, pictured, who is also an actress and a former soldier, toured last year with Caro Emerald. Other key gigs: Tomorrow (Friday), Birmingham indie rockers JAWS at the Newhampton Arts Centre in Wolverhampton; Saturday, Grimsby rockers The Brew at Wolverhampton's Slade Rooms; Sunday, veteran prog rock band Curved Air with Sonja Kristina at the Robin 2 in Bilston.



House full for CBSO at Symphony Hall

The City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra has one of its busiest weeks coming up with a series of major concerts at Symphony Hall as part of its 2017-18 season.

The highlight is Saturday's sold-out performance of *Carmina Burana* with the CBSO Symphony Orchestra, chorus and children's chorus united under the baton of Michael Seal. That's after Freddy Kempf gets his chance to shine during Grieg's Piano Concerto. Kempf will also be performing that piece during today's (Thursday's) matinee performance with Elgar's *First Symphony*.

Next Thursday evening, February 22, Leo McFall will conduct the CBSO for Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet* and Paul Lewis will be at the keys for Brahms' volcanic *First Piano Concerto*. See www.thsh.co.uk

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CHOICE



Louis Hunter

Troy: Fall of a City (BBC1, 9.10pm)
New series. A encounter with the gods binds the fate of young herdsman Paris to that of his home city of Troy, and when he is granted the honour of visiting Sparta as a guest of King Menelaus, he falls in love with the beautiful queen Helen, with far-reaching consequences that threaten to bring an empire to its knees. David Farr's historical epic, starring Louis Hunter, Bella Dayne, Jonas Armstrong, David Threlfall, Frances O'Connor, David Gyasi, Joseph Mawle, Johnny Harris, Tom Weston-Jones, Chloe Pirrie, Aimee-Ffion Edwards, Alex Lanipekun, Alfred Enoch and David Avery.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Live Winter Olympics 2018. Coverage of day eight from PyeongChang, South Korea. **12.00** Football Focus. **1.00** BBC News. Weather. **1.15** Live Winter Olympics 2018. Continued coverage of day eight from PyeongChang, South Korea. **4.30** Final Score. **5.25** BBC News. **5.35** Regional Programme. **5.45** And They're Off for Sport Relief.

6.25 **Pointless Celebrities.** Alexander Armstrong hosts as Jayne Torvill, Clare Balding, Jenny Jones, Amy Williams, Graham Bell, Rhona Howie and more compete in a Winter Olympics-themed edition of the quiz.

7.15 **All Together Now.** Rob Beckett gives another selection of vocalists take to the stage, hoping to impress the 100-strong panel of judges enough to get them to sing along with their performance. This time, the would-be stars tackle Pharrell Williams' ubiquitous hit Happy, Climb Every Mountain from The Sound of Music and Skyfall from the 007 film of the same name. The experts are also encouraged to join in with renditions of 1970s classics in the form of Candi Staton's Young Hearts Run Free and the Jackson 5's Who's Loving You.

8.20 **Casualty.** Ethan plans to deal with surplus patients by sending them to a Clinical Decisions Unit, but this fails to fool the Rage in Resus blogger, who continues to expose the ED's faults.

9.10 **Troy: Fall of a City.** New series. An encounter between a Trojan herdsman and the queen of Sparta sparks a conflict that brings an empire to its knees.

10.10 **BBC News:** Weather; National Lottery Update.

10.30 **Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights.** Action from the latest fifth-round matches, which included Brighton & Hove Albion v Coventry City and West Bromwich Albion v Southampton.

11.35 **Live at the Apollo.** Adam Hills hosts an evening of stand-up at the Apollo in Hammersmith, London, introducing routines by Andi Osho and Terry Alderton. (R)

12.20 **Live Winter Olympics 2018.** Coverage of day nine from PyeongChang, South Korea. **3.00** Live Winter Olympics 2018. Continued coverage of day nine from PyeongChang, South Korea.

BBC2

6.00 Live Winter Olympics 2018. Coverage of day eight from PyeongChang, South Korea. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** The Hairy Bikers' Comfort Food. (R) **12.00** Live Winter Olympics 2018. Coverage of day eight from PyeongChang, South Korea. **1.15** Escape to the Country. **1.45** Trust Me, I'm a Doctor. (R) **2.15** Film: The Third Man. (1949) Thriller, starring Joseph Cotten and Orson Welles. **4.00** Plog It! (R) **4.45** Nigel Slater's Middle East. (R) **5.45** Tom Kerridge: Lose Weight for Good. (R)

6.15 **Hugh's Wild West.** Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall follows the fortunes of a small buzzard family, and tracks salmon migrating upstream as his wildlife tour takes him to Dartmoor.

7.15 **Winter Olympics – Today at the Games.** Clare Balding presents highlights of the eighth day's action from the 23rd staging of the Games, which takes place in PyeongChang, South Korea.

8.00 **David Attenborough's Natural Curiosities.** New series. The naturalist continues to explore the secrets behind evolution, this time focusing on the animal kingdom's bizarre hybrids, including the "pizzly bear". Previously seen on W.

8.30 **Dad's Army.** Mainwaring finds a German pilot trapped on top of the town clock by his parachute, so the platoon attempts a rescue mission. (R)

9.00 **QI XL.** An extended edition in which Bill Bailey, Colin Lane and Desiree Burch join regular panellist Alan Davies to answer host Sandi Toksvig's questions on the theme "Overseas".

9.45 **Imagine – Mel Brooks: Unwrapped.** Alan Yentob travels to Hollywood to interview Mel Brooks, the comedy actor, writer, producer and director who turned 91 last year. At the time of filming, the musical theatre version of Brooks' 1974 comedy horror Young Frankenstein has just opened on London's West End. Yentob marks the occasion by profiling its creator, observing him at work and play, and revisiting archive interviews stretching back decades.

11.00 **Film: Young Frankenstein.** (1974)

12.40 **Film: The Producers.** (1968) **2.45** Weather for the Week Ahead. **2.50** BBC News.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Sooty. **6.10** The Aquabats! Super Show! (R) **6.35** Dino Dana. (R) **6.50** Super 4. (R) **7.00** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.05** Marvel's Avengers: Ultron Revolution. **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: The Tom and Jerry Show. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: Fangbone. (R) **8.10** Scrambled!: The Powerpuff Girls. (R) **8.30** Scrambled!: Be Cool, Scooby-Doo! (R) **9.05** Scrambled!: Wishfant. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** James Martin's Saturday Morning. **11.25** The Hungry Sailors. (R) **12.25** ITV News; Weather. **12.30** Dancing on Ice. (R) **2.30** Britain's Best Walks with Julia Bradbury. (R) **3.00** Celebrity Catchphrase. (R) **4.00** Tipping Point. (R) **5.00** The Chase. (R)

6.00 **ITV News:** Weather.

6.20 **Regional Programme;** Weather.

6.30 **Take Me Out.** A rower from Nottingham, a barman from Luton, a lifeguard from London and a football fan from Ipswich enter the "love lift" in the hope of impressing 30 single women and winning a date – but must first get the female participants to keep their lights on as a sign of approval. Host Paddy McGuinness presides on the matching process, and also catches up on the latest dating action from all the couples in Fernando's as the dating game bows out for another series. Last in the series.

8.00 **The Voice UK.** Emma Willis hosts the conclusion of the blind auditions phase of the contest, as performers compete for the chance to impress judges Will.I.am, Tom Jones, Jennifer Hudson and Olly Murs and win one of the final places on the coaches' teams. Those contenders surviving this stage of the competition remain in with a chance to win a recording contract with Polydor Records.

9.30 **Through the Keyhole.** Keith Lemon hosts the game show in which celebrity panellists Paddy McGuinness, Catherine Tyldesley and Chris Kamara are challenged to identify the homes of the rich and famous.

10.30 **ITV News:** Weather.

10.45 **Film: Lethal Weapon 3.** (1992) Detectives Riggs and Murtaugh go on the trail of a former policeman selling impounded weaponry to criminal gang bosses. Thriller sequel, starring Mel Gibson.

12.45 Jackpot247. **3.00** Babushka. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.05 Kirstie's Fill Your House for Free. (R) **6.20** 3rd Rock from the Sun. (R) **6.45** 3rd Rock from the Sun. (R) **7.10** The King of Queens. (R) **7.35** The King of Queens. (R) **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.30** Frasier. (R) **10.00** Frasier. (R) **10.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.00** The Simpsons. (R) **12.30** The Simpsons. (R) **1.00** The Simpsons. (R) **1.30** Come Dine with Me. (R) **2.30** Coast vs Country. (R) **3.35** A Place in the Sun. (R) **4.35** The Secret Life of the Zoo. (R) **5.35** The Supertv. (R)

6.30 **Channel 4 News.**

7.00 **Penelope Keith's Coastal Villages.** New series. Penelope heads on a seaside journey around the coastal villages of the UK. In the first episode, she visits the seaside villages of West Sussex and the Isle of Wight, where she quickly finds herself immersed in stories of seafarers, smugglers and shipwrecks. Previously seen on More4.

8.00 **Britain at Low Tide.** New series. Natural History Museum palaeontologist Tori Herridge returns with the maritime documentary, which makes use of state-of-the-art technology to explore Britain's coastline for signs of the nation's seafaring history. This time, she begins in East Sussex, where she explores the wreck of a ship that sank in the 1740s along with its cargo, and she uncorks a bottle filled with 18th-century red wine. She also discovers a prehistoric well shaft that is now situated on the foreshore, but would have been much further inland 2,000 years ago.

9.00 **Film: Ted 2.** (2015) Premiere. The four-mouthed talking teddy bear is horrified to discover that he counts as property according to the law. He and his human best friend hire a pot-smoking lawyer to help them fight a court case and get Ted legally recognised as a person. Comedy sequel, starring Mark Wahlberg and Amanda Seyfried.

11.15 **Film: Dracula Untold.** (2014) Fantasy adventure, starring Luke Evans and Dominic Cooper.

12.55 The Last Leg. (R) **1.50** Holyoaks. (R) **3.55** Four Rooms with Sarah Beeny. (R) **4.50** Location, Location, Location. (R) **5.45** Superfoods: The Real Story. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.05** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.35** Cats Make You Laugh Out Loud 3. (R) **11.05** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.00** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.00** The A-Team. (R) **2.00** The A-Team. (R) **3.00** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. (R) **4.00** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. (R) **5.00** Rich House, Poor House. (R)

6.00 **The Wonderful World of Puppies.** Documentary charting the first few months of a dog's life, following different breeds as they take the first steps on their own unique developmental journey. Dalmatians Daphne and Digby start to develop the spots that will mark them out for life, and take their first stumbling steps in the great outdoors. Ruby the toy poodle's huge personality belies her diminutive frame, while abandoned Jack Russell pup Boomer's shattered confidence will need to be rebuilt by the love of a foster home. (R)

7.00 **Cruising with Jane McDonald.** A Lilliputian lope round the Inner Hebrides puts Jane in touch with her Scottish roots, as with just six other passengers she embarks on what is easily her smallest ever cruise. (R)

8.00 **The World's Most Luxurious Cruise Ship.** Part two of The Seven Seas Explorer's designers rush to choose the luxury fittings and fixtures, before Princess Charlene of Monaco christens the vessel. (R)

8.55 **5 News Weekend.**

9.00 **Football on 5: The Championship.** Colin Murray introduces highlights from the weekend's games, including Cardiff City v Middlesbrough, Fulham v Aston Villa and Sunderland v Brentford.

10.00 **Football on 5: Goal Rush.** Colin Murray introduces all the goals from the weekend's games in Leagues One and Two, including Milton Keynes Dons v Charlton Athletic and Barnet v Accrington Stanley.

10.30 **Film: There's Something About Mary.** (1998) A lovesick man hires a seedy detective to track down his high-school sweetheart – but discovers he has many rivals for her affections. Comedy, starring Cameron Diaz and Ben Stiller.

12.40 SuperCasino. **3.10** GPs: Behind Closed Doors. (R) **4.00** Secrets of the National Trust with Alan Titchmarsh. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four

7.00 The Dark: Nature's Nighttime World

8.00 Winter Olympics Extra **9.00** Modus

10.35 Top of the Pops: 1985 **11.10** The Joy of the Bee Gees **12.10** Southern Rock at the BBC **1.10** Sings Neil Diamond **1.40** The Joy of the Bee Gees **2.40** From Ice to Fire: The Incredible Science of Temperature **3.40** Close

ITV2

11.45 Take Me Out **12.55** Mr Bean **1.30** Film: The Flintstones in Viva Rock Vegas (2000) **2.35** FYI Daily **2.40** Film: The Flintstones in Viva Rock Vegas (2000) **3.15** Film: Spy Kids (2001) **4.15** FYI Daily **4.20** Film: Spy Kids (2001) **5.05** Film: Despicable Me 2 (2013) **6.10** FYI Daily **6.15** Film: Despicable Me 2 (2013) **7.00** Film: Jurassic World (2015) **8.10** FYI Daily **8.15** Film: Jurassic World (2015) **9.30** Survival of the Fittest **10.35** Family Guy **11.30** American Dad! **12.30** The Cleveland Show **1.00** Film: Zack and Miri Make a Porno (2008) **2.00** FYI Daily **2.05** Film: Zack and Miri Make a Porno (2008) **2.55** Teleshopping **5.55** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3

1.20 Film: Columbo: The Most Crucial Game (1972) **2.55** Lewis **4.55** Midsomer Murders **6.55** The Durrells **9.00** Midsomer Murders **11.00** Lewis **1.05** The Good Karma Hospital **1.55** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

ITV4

1.30 ITV Racing: Live from Ascot **4.00** Film: The Way West (1967) **5.05** FYI Daily **5.10** Film: The Way West (1967) **6.25** Film: Casino Royale (1987) **7.25** FYI Daily **7.30** Film: Casino Royale (1987) **9.00** Film: Executive Decision (1996) **10.30** FYI Daily **10.35** Film: Executive Decision (1996) **11.45** Film: Blade (1998) **12.45** FYI Daily **12.50** Film: Blade (1998) **2.05** The Protectors **2.35** Counting Cars **3.00** Teleshopping

E4

12.00 Film: Casper (1995) **2.00** The Big Bang Theory **7.00** Film: Men in Black (1997) **9.00** Film: X-Men: First Class (2011) **11.35** Gogglebox **12.40** The Big Bang Theory **1.40** Celebs Go Dating **2.45** Celebs Go Dating: Valentines **3.35** Celebs Go Dating **4.30** How I Met Your Mother **5.15** Rude(ish) Tube

Film4

1.00 Judy Moody and the Not Bummer Summer (2011) **2.45** Young Sherlock Holmes (1985) **4.55** Ice Age: The Meltdown (2006) **8.40** The Day After Tomorrow (2004) **9.00** Lone Survivor (2013) **11.20** The Fly II (1989) **1.25** The Voices (2014) **3.35** Close

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CHOICE



Daniel Day-Lewis

British Academy Film Awards 2018 (BBC1, 9pm)
Joanna Lumley hosts the awards ceremony live from the Royal Albert Hall. This year's nominated films are Call Me By Your Name, Darkest Hour, Dunkirk, The Shape of Water and Three Billboards outside Ebbing, Missouri, while Jamie Bell, Daniel Day-Lewis, Gary Oldman, Timothée Chalamet, Daniel Kaluuya, Annette Bening, Sally Hawkins, Frances McDormand, Margot Robbie and Saoirse Ronan are among the actors in the running for awards.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.55** Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **12.00** BBC News: Weather. **12.15** Live Winter Olympics 2018. Continuing coverage from PyeongChang, South Korea. **3.35** Match of the Day Live: The FA Cup. Rochdale v Tottenham Hotspur (Kick-off 4.00pm). **6.05** BBC News. **6.20** Regional Programme. **6.30** **Countryfile**. Matt Baker and Anita Rani present the show from Anglesey, where they go in search of harbour porpoises, investigate the boom in Menai mussels, talk to children who work to keep the beaches clear of plastic, and meet a squirrel whisperer. Plus, Helen Skelton reports on faux fur and Adam Henson discovers how farmers are using facial recognition technology to spot problems with their livestock. **7.30** **Hold the Sunset**. New series. Comedy, starring Alison Steadman as a retired woman whose dreams for the future are disrupted when her middle-aged son abandons his family and moves back into her house. **8.00** **Call the Midwife**. Rumours spread around Poplar that a sailor with smallpox is hiding somewhere in town. Nurse Crane and Dr Turner try to track him down before he causes an outbreak. **9.00** **British Academy Film Awards 2018**. Joanna Lumley hosts the awards ceremony live from the Royal Albert Hall. This year's nominated films are Call Me By Your Name, Darkest Hour, Dunkirk, The Shape of Water and Three Billboards outside Ebbing, Missouri, while Jamie Bell, Daniel Day-Lewis, Gary Oldman, Timothée Chalamet, Daniel Kaluuya, Annette Bening, Sally Hawkins, Frances McDormand, Margot Robbie and Saoirse Ronan are among the actors in the running for awards. **11.00** BBC News. **11.20** Regional Programme. **11.30** **Julius Caesar Revealed**. Mary Beard explores the life, reign and legacy of the Roman emperor. (R) **12.30** Live Winter Olympics 2018. Coverage from PyeongChang, South Korea. **3.00** Live Winter Olympics 2018.

BBC2

6.00 Live Winter Olympics 2018. Ellidh Barbour presents coverage of day nine. **9.00** Live Winter Olympics 2018. Further coverage of day nine from PyeongChang, South Korea. **12.15** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **1.45** A Vicar's Life. (R) **2.15** The Crane Gang. (R) **3.15** South Korea: Earth's Hidden Wilderness. (R) **4.15** Lifeline. **4.25** Songs of Praise. **5.00** Back in Time for Tea. (R) **6.00** **New York: America's Busiest City**. Behind the scenes with the team who look after all 843 acres of Central Park, revealing the hidden systems and organisational miracles that keep the world's busiest urban park clean and green. Plus, Ant Anstead sees how an entirely new district is being built on top of a functioning rail depot in Manhattan and Dan Snow is in Coney Island, where he discovers that television, air conditioning and extreme weather almost killed off this historic amusement zone. (R) **7.00** **Winter Olympics – Today at the Games**. Clare Balding presents highlights of day nine's action from the 23rd staging of the Games, which takes place in PyeongChang, South Korea. **8.00** **Dragons' Den**. The panel assess the profit-making potential of a combined toothbrush and mobile game controller, a range of Scottish gins, and a device for relieving back pain. Last in the series. **9.00** **Life and Death Row: The Mass Execution**. New series. Documentary following prisoners in Arkansas awaiting execution following the state's reintroduction of the death penalty. **10.00** **The Mash Report**. Nish Kumar and a cast of comedy correspondents present the satirical and surreal take on the week's news. (R) **10.30** **Live at the Apollo**. Rob Beckett presents stand-up comedy from the Hammersmith Apollo in west London. (R) **11.15** **Cleverman**. Koen confronts Linda about the dark secret from their past, Nerida, Alinta and Latani are arrested by the Containment Authority and Jarli takes Charlotte to the land of the Bindawu. **12.05** Film: Guess Who's Coming to Dinner. (1967) **1.50** Sign Zone: Question Time. (R) **2.50** Holly City. (R) **3.50** Weather for the Week Ahead. **3.55** BBC News.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Sooty. **6.10** The Aquabats! Super Show! (R) **6.35** Dino Dana. (R) **6.50** Super 4. (R) **7.00** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.05** Marvel's Avengers: Ultron Revolution. **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: The Tom and Jerry Show. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: Ben 10. (R) **8.10** Scrambled!: Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **8.30** Scrambled!: Spy School. **9.05** Scrambled!: Wishart. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Love Your Garden. (R) **10.00** Peston on Sunday. **11.00** The Martin Lewis Money Show. (R) **11.25** The Voice UK. (R) **12.55** ITV News: Weather. **1.00** The Harbour. (R) **1.30** The Cruise: Return to the Mediterranean. (R) **2.00** What Would Your Kid Do? (R) **3.00** Britain's Brightest Family. (R) **3.30** Tipping Point. (R) **4.30** ITV News: Weather. **4.45** Regional Programme; Weather. **5.00** The Chase: Celebrity Special. (R) **6.00** **Dancing on Ice**. Phillip Schofield and Holly Willoughby present as the seven remaining pro-celebrity couples put their training into practice in a battle to win viewers' votes, impress the judges and survive another week on the ice. As always, Chris Dean, Jayne Torvill, Jason Gardiner and Ashley Banjo will be scoring them out of 10, but it will only be after the viewers have voted that the unlucky two in the skate off will be revealed. Singer Camila Cabello provides the music. **8.00** **Endeavour**. Morse suspects a connection between a woman's disappearance and the unsolved murder of a teenager several years previously. However, the discovery of a body and some unusual elements to the crime scene suggest another possibility. Thursday investigates a lorry hijack which he believes could be the work of a local gangster, and Fancy takes on an informant who is subsequently murdered. **10.00** **ITV News**: Weather. **10.15** **Peston on Sunday**. Political magazine, presented by Robert Peston, with Allegra Stratton. (R) **11.15** **Frustrated Britain: Caught on Camera**. Examining things that anger the public, featuring an annoying brother, a foul-mouthed woman, celebrities seeing red, and a woman angered by poor spelling. (R) **12.10** Car Wars UK. (R) **1.05** Jackpot247. **3.00** Take on the Twisters. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.15 The King of Queens. (R) **6.40** The King of Queens. (R) **7.05** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.35** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.00** Frasier. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast. (R) **1.30** The Simpsons. (R) **2.00** The Simpsons. (R) **2.25** The Simpsons. (R) **2.55** Film: The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water. (2015) Premiere. Animated comedy. **4.45** Film: Rio 2. (2014) **6.35** **Channel 4 News**. **7.00** **Posh Pawn**. James enjoys a tipple from an unusual £75,000 fire engine bar, memorabilia expert Lawrence is presented with an autograph collection that could be worth £20,000, and a former model wants to sell some designer bags to the high-end pawnbrokers to finance the renovation of her house and her body. (R) **8.00** **The First Brit: Secrets of the 10,000 Year Old Man**. Documentary following scientists at the Natural History Museum and University College London studying Britain's oldest human remains. The skeleton was unearthed in Cheddar Gorge, Somerset, and has been dated as 10,000 years old. Two of the world's most acclaimed palaeontological model makers are attempting to recreate the human face of this ancient Briton. **9.00** **Homeland**. New series. The espionage drama returns for a seventh season. Saul and the 200 other federal employees detained after the attempt on the President-elect's life are still in prison, while the new head of state's administration continues to come under scrutiny. Carrie has left her position in the White House and moved back to DC, living with her sister Maggie and her family as she takes on the Keane administration and tries to secure the release of her mentor and colleagues. Starring Claire Danes. **10.15** **Film: Our Kind of Traitor**. (2016) Premiere. A couple are thrown into the murky world of espionage when a Russian gangster asks them to smuggle classified information. Thriller. With Ewan McGregor and Naomie Harris. **12.20** The Supertent. (R) **1.15** The World's Most Expensive Food. (R) **2.05** Obsessive Compulsive Cleaners. (R) **3.00** Four Rooms with Sarah Beeny. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Little Princess. **6.10** Wissper. (R) **6.20** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.30** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **6.35** The Secret Life of Puppies. (R) **6.40** Moby. (R) **6.45** Simon. (R) **6.50** Simon. (R) **6.55** Peppa Pig. (R) **7.05** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.15** Thomas & Friends. (R) **7.25** Fireman Sam. (R) **7.40** Olly the Little White Van. (R) **7.50** Blaze and the Monster Machines. (R) **8.15** Paw Patrol. (R) **8.35** Nella the Princess Knight. (R) **8.50** Mooty: Toyland Detective. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.20** Shimmer and Shine. (R) **9.35** Digby Dragon. (R) **9.50** Peppa Pig. (R) **9.55** Peppa Pig. (R) **10.00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.35** Football on 5: The Championship. (R) **11.25** Football on 5: Goal Rush. (R) **12.00** Pets Make You Laugh Out Loud. **12.30** Film: Justin and the Knights of Valour. (2013) Animated adventure, with the voice of Freddie Highmore. **2.15** Film: PS I Love You. (2007) Romantic drama, starring Hilary Swank and Gerard Butler. **4.45** Film: Something's Gotta Give. (2003) Romantic comedy, starring Jack Nicholson and Diane Keaton. **5.45** 5 News Update. **5.50** Film: Something's Gotta Give. (2003) Concluded. **7.00** 5 News Weekend. **7.10** **Greatest Celebrity Wind-Ups Ever!** Joe Pasquale revisits hilarious celebrity pranks, with first-hand accounts from the people responsible for staging the tricks, and the unfortunate stars on the receiving end. (R) **8.00** **Dumb Daredavils: Caught in the Act**. Iain Lee narrates comic videos featuring would-be daredavils, including a blogger who will do anything his followers tell him to, including jumping off Tower Bridge. Plus, the programme meets a man whose daredevil marriage proposal has been viewed millions of times and has led to an unusual career change. **9.00** **When Comedy Goes Horribly Wrong**. Julian Clary narrates a compilation of disastrous mishaps from comedy shows. Featuring a stunt fight that ended badly for Russell Howard, an incident that left Tony Hancock determined to never perform live again, and a rare outbreak from a long-forgotten sitcom in which Ian Ogilvy and Lionel Jeffries nearly drown. **12.00** Bette Midler: By Her Friends. (R) **1.00** SuperCasino. **3.10** Cowboy Builders. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four
7.00 Only Connect **7.30** University Challenge **8.00** Winter Olympics Extra **9.00** Akala's Odyssey **10.00** Film: In Order of Disappearance (2014) **11.50** From Ice to Fire: The Incredible Science of Temperature **12.50** The Secret Life of Books: Cider with Rosie **1.50** Modus **4.05** Close
ITV2
2.20 Film: Spy Kids 2: Island of Lost Dreams (2002) **3.20** FYI Daily **3.25** Film: Spy Kids 2: Island of Lost Dreams (2002) **4.20** Film: Nanny McPhee (2005) **5.20** FYI Daily **5.25** Film: Nanny McPhee (2005) **6.20** Film: The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies (2014) **7.20** FYI Daily **7.25** Film: The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies (2014) **9.00** Ibiza Weekender **10.00** Survival of the Fittest **11.00** Family Guy **12.30** American Dad! **1.25** The Cleveland Show **1.55** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.25** Teleshopping **5.55** ITV2 Nightscreen
ITV3
1.35 Les Dawson Forever **3.40** The Durrells **5.50** Midsomer Murders **8.00** Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs **9.00** Tonight at the London Palladium **10.00** Film: Elizabeth: The Golden Age (2007) **12.15** The Security Men **1.15** Blue Murder **2.35** Judge Judy **3.00** George and Mildred **4.20** Road to Avonlea
ITV4
12.35 Pawn Stars **2.25** Hornblower **4.40** Film: The Way West (1967) **5.45** FYI Daily **5.50** Film: The Way West (1967) **7.05** Film: The Train Robbers (1973) **8.10** FYI Daily **8.15** Film: The Train Robbers (1973) **9.00** Film: High Plains Drifter (1973) **10.05** FYI Daily **10.10** Film: High Plains Drifter (1973) **11.10** Film: Memphis Belle (1990) **12.10** FYI Daily **12.15** Film: Memphis Belle (1990) **1.20** The Professionals
E4
11.00 The Goldbergs **1.00** Toy Story Toons: Hawaiian Vacation **1.15** The Big Bang Theory: Sheldon's Family Tree **6.15** The Big Bang Theory **7.15** Film: Men in Black II (2002) **9.00** Celebs Go Dating **10.00** Naked Attraction **11.05** The Big Bang Theory **12.00** Gogglebox **1.05** Celebs Go Dating **2.10** Don't Tell the Bride: Valentine's Day **3.05** First Dates Abroad **3.30** Hollyoaks
Film4
1.00 Last Holiday (2006) **3.10** Carry On Jack (1963) **5.00** Napoleon Dynamite (2004) **6.50** El Joe: Retaliation (2013) **9.00** The Family (2013) **11.10** Zero Dark Thirty (2012) **2.15** The Future (2011) **4.00** Close



6-10 MARCH

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By Ronald Harwood

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FILM CHOICES

MONDAY
Final Recourse, Channel 5, 3.15pm
 A wealthy businesswoman spirals into substance abuse as a way of dealing with a tragedy, and, in the haze of a drunken stupor, she is kidnapped. Held in a makeshift prison by her captors, she goes through the agony of drug and alcohol withdrawal, before managing to escape and return home to her family. It's only then, however, that she realises someone close to home may have been behind her abduction. Thriller, starring Teri Polo and Chazz Palminteri. (2013)

TUESDAY
Deadly Departure, Channel 5, 3.15pm
 The family of FBI agent Sarah Plummer are taken hostage while she is on a flight to Washington, DC. While on the flight, she meets a mysterious stranger seated beside her, and is forced to make a decision that could cost her the lives of her husband and 12-year-old son. Action, starring Dina Meyer, Victoria Pratt and Justin Johnson. (2016)



Underworld: Rise of the Lycans, Friday, Channel 4, 12.05am

WEDNESDAY
A Housekeeper's Revenge, Channel 5, 3.15pm
 A student fears for her life after a number of disturbing occurrences, leaving her desperately searching for the culprit. The search leads to her family housemaid - unaware their connection is much deeper than expected. Thriller, starring Chrysti Ane. (2016)

THURSDAY
Killer Obsession, Channel 5, 3.15pm
 A National Guard soldier returns from the frontline in Iraq and struggles to return to a normal life. To make matters worse, she finds herself blamed for a friendly fire incident in which two Americans were killed - and then she becomes the target of an obsessed fellow soldier seeking revenge for their deaths. Thriller, starring Roxanne McGee. (2016)

FRIDAY
Underworld: Rise of the Lycans, Channel 4, 12.05am
 A werewolf leads a revolution against the vampire king who has enslaved his race, starting a centuries-long war. Fantasy horror prequel, starring Michael Sheen and Bill Nighy. (2009)

Grim new case is far from child's play for Marcella

You might be well-apprised of the police procedural format by now; typically, our hero detectives are broody rebels touched by crime-solving genius. In ITV's Twitter-storming 2016 'London Noir' thriller Marcella, the heroine had bigger issues than a meddling DCI or an unhealthy relationship with booze - plagued by dissociative fugues, DS Marcella Backland suffered periodical black-outs, and while she appeared to function normally during these moments, she was later unable to remember anything she had done during these episodes. This proved incredibly problematic when her cheating husband's mistress suddenly turned up dead - and Marcella wasn't able to say with any confidence whether this was the work of a fugitive serial killer, or her own misdeed. Naturally, this issue became the core of the show's appeal, and the fact wasn't lost on actress Anna Friel: "It's a study of a woman on the edge of a nervous breakdown whilst

holding down a really full on job." Just like it's ITV crime-drama stablemate Broadchurch, Marcella gave its female lead a highly personal stake in catching the killer, and the idea carries over to the second series. In the words of writer Hans Rosenfeldt: "Marcella is a show that is just as much about Marcella being Marcella as it is about her being a police officer. So, it works best when the case she is working on is connected to her personal life in some way." This time around, we catch up with her following a grim discovery inside a wall. The body of a child is found, clothed in a school blazer and surrounded by soft toys, and Marcella is devastated when she realises the tragic victim is Leo Priestley, a boy who was abducted a few years earlier - and one who had been friends with her own son Edward. As a result, work follows Marcella back home once again. Not only must she protect her own children from a deadly predator, but she also has to help her son come to terms

with the death of a schoolmate. And it seems her efforts might not quite hit the mark. "Marcella has thoughts on whether she deserves to be a mother or not," states Friel. "She seems to try her best but maybe that's not enough." Considering the demands of playing a character whose life falls apart on a routine basis, it must be hard for the ex-Brookside star to get back into Marcella's head-space. Not so, claims Friel: "As soon as the fringe was cut back in and my hair was pulled back into the ponytail, I was like 'oooh, she's back'". For some, though, the mark of a great Scandi-style thriller heroine rests solely on her wardrobe. Danish actress Sarah Lund famously jump-started a knitwear revolution with her Faroe Isle jumper in The Killing, and back in 2016, high-street retailers struggled to keep up with demand for replicas of Marcella's own fur-trimmed casual parka. So does the coat make a reappearance this series?



Anna Friel stars in Marcella, Monday, ITV, 9pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY
24 Hours in Police Custody Channel 4, 9pm
 The return of the programme that follows the work of Bedfordshire Police around-the-clock, with enquiries covered from the cells at Luton to the operational heart of major cases. The first edition goes behind the scenes of a major investigation into an allegation of police corruption, with the unprecedented access given by the police meaning that cameras are allowed to document all of the twists and turns of the case as detectives track down, arrest and then charge one of their fellow officers.

TUESDAY
The Dog Rescuers with Alan Davies Channel 5, 8pm
 As a nation we're obsessed with dogs, so little wonder this series featuring the QI veteran has been so successful over the years. Now it's back for a sixth run, and once more the heart-warming documentary profiles RSPCA officers, including Sarah Gardener. She enters one of the largest multi-dog households ever seen. Cameras also follow Anthony Puffer, who attempts to help six dogs caught in a house fire in south east London, and there's a happy ending for two dogs left in the lurch by their owner.

Shetland BBC1, 9pm
 As the eponymous region is relatively small, there are only so many places killers can run - the airport or the coast. So Jimmy Perez has an easier job than some TV detectives. Or does he? Considering the problems he's faced over the years, one of Shetland's most amiable detectives is beset by no end of bad luck, so hopefully he'll get a break in the latest offering. The hunt is on for Malone's attacker, Tosh investigates Forst Energy in the serch for Sally's killer, and DNA in the Kilmuir case yields a surprising result. Good support comes from Alison O'Donnell.

Working for Weinstein Channel 4, 10pm
 For years the Weinstein Company and Miramax were film brands synonymous with quality productions. And then everything changed. Under criminal investigation in Britain and the US, expelled from Bafta and the Academy of Motion Pictures, Harvey Weinstein's fall from grace has been swift since allegations of sexual abuse and harassment emerged against

him last October. This documentary hears testimony from those who worked with him across 30 years of British film, and investigates how he kept his accusers quiet for decades.

WEDNESDAY
The BRIT Awards 2018 ITV, 8pm
 The all-conquering Ed Sheeran may have dominated the charts on both sides of the Atlantic over the past 12 months, but tonight he could well be upstaged by a 22-year-old breakthrough pop star from London. Dua Lipa, who scored a huge summer hit with New Rules, has earned the most nominations at the 2018 Brit awards, receiving nods in the British Female Solo Artist, Breakthrough Act, Single, Video and British Album. Another one of the biggest sellers of 2017, Sam Smith's The



The BRIT Awards 2018, Wednesday, ITV, 8pm

Thrill of it All, has been completely shut out of the nominations. But the good news for his fans though is that he is confirmed to perform, as are the likes of Foo Fighters, Justin Timberlake and Rita Ora. Finally, new host Jack Whitehall has been brought in to inject some risque humour into proceedings.

THURSDAY
Girls on the Edge BBC2, 9pm
 Observational documentary following three girls who have been sectioned under the Mental Health Act to prevent them from harming themselves. Their detention is indefinite and the film explores the impact on them, their siblings and their parents, who do not know when their children will be allowed home. They include a 17-year-old who hopes to be discharged before her 18th birthday and a 16-year-old whose mother is desperate to have her home - but is worried about having the responsibility of keeping her daughter safe once more.

FRIDAY
Live Six Nations Rugby Union BBC1, 7.30pm
 France v Italy (Kick-off 8.00pm). Coverage of the match from the third round of fixtures, which takes place at Orange Velodrome in Marseille.

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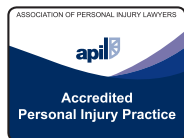
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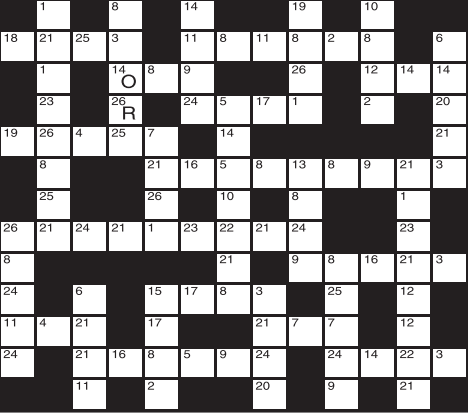


BRAIN GYM

No.467

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



1	14	O
2	15	
3	16	
4	17	
5	18	
6	19	
7	20	
8	21	
9	22	
10	23	
11	24	
12	25	
13	26	R

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
P	F	S	Y	V	N	G	E	T	B	I	M	W
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
U	Q	J	X	A	H	Z	C	K	D	O	L	R

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

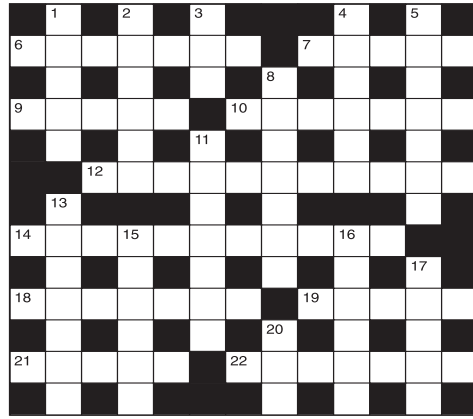
Cryptic Clues:

Across

- Club which may improve the flow of writing (7)
- Passed a writer in the street (5)
- One taking part (5)
- Settled for having the team in red (7)
- Be likely to profit by a rise? (5,2,4)
- Not an offence, but a solicitor may be consulted about it (5,6)
- Invest capital, perhaps? (7)
- Look well on (5)
- Colour an Irishman goes about in (5)
- Declining music for a song (7)

Down

- You can put it on a horse that's a sure thing (5)
- Not quite a fifty majority (6)
- A small court of law (3)
- Bound over for three months (6)
- Succeed with a will in their resolve (7)
- Willingly die? (7)
- General form of increase (7)
- Some leavers reform (7)
- Spoils a signal and gets into a row (6)
- Not even a strange thing (6)
- Charles I was an old woman! (5)
- Hardened bunch (3)



Quick Clues:

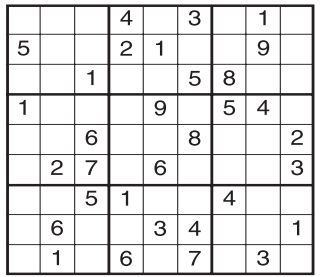
Across

- Wretched (7)
- She-fox (5)
- First-rate (5)
- Advise (7)
- Remonstrate (11)
- Prodigal (11)
- Fluent (7)
- Flood (5)
- Ardent (5)
- Shortage (7)

Down

- Truck (5)
- Culmination (6)
- Globe (3)
- Indication (6)
- Keepsake (7)
- House (7)
- Summon (7)
- Elucidate (7)
- Recompense (6)
- Serviette (6)
- Garret (5)
- Not many (3)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid above so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

1	4	9	5	6	8	7	2	3
8	2	7	3	1	4	6	9	5
3	5	6	7	2	9	8	4	1
7	6	8	9	5	1	4	3	2
5	3	1	4	7	2	9	8	6
4	9	2	6	8	3	1	5	7
9	7	5	2	4	6	3	1	8
6	8	4	1	3	5	2	7	9
2	1	3	8	9	7	5	6	4

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 6 Grounds; 7 Umber; 9 Car; 10 Ordinance; 12 Grasscutter; 15 Under his hat; 17 Willpower; 19 Rot; 21 Steer; 22 Malaise. Down: 1 Break; 2 Out; 3 Oder; 4 Impartial; 5 Teacher; 8 Discus; 11 Orderlies; 13 School; 14 Anxiety; 16 Loose; 18 Elan; 20 Lay.
QUICK - Across: 6 Heathen; 7 Loyal; 9 Age; 10 Imprudent; 12 Second-class; 15 Infantrymen; 17 Continual; 19 Pry; 21 Acute; 22 Astound. Down: 1 Feign; 2 Sty; 3 Deem; 4 Gondolier; 5 Earnest; 8 Friday; 11 Devastate; 13 Outing; 14 Invoice; 16 Brine; 18 Also; 20 Rot.

Quiz

- Which delicacy comes in American, Norway and spiny varieties?
- Which composer was Richard Wagner's father-in-law?
- How is the laughing jackass also known?
- What was Thomas Edison's middle name?
- Who was Lynne Frederick's first husband?
- Which Yorkshire town includes the remains of the castle where Richard II died?
- What type of edible plant is laver?
- What is a skink?
- In which sport are the Swaythling and Corbillion Cups contested?
- Which dreamer was the creation of US humorist James Thurber?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Bernard; 2 Foreign Secretary; 3 Pool; 4 David Langton; 5 Scrofula; 6 Charlie Chaplin; 7 Mermaid; 8 Rosh Hashanah; 9 George VI; 10 Lerner and Loewe.
Niner: SIDETRACK

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

4389 gives grime,
1726 gives more grime,
5834 gives residue.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

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Charming family home situated on a corner plot

This charming four-bedroomed detached family home on a corner plot in Sherbrook Road, Cannock, has huge potential for further improvement and extension.

Located in a highly regarded residential area close to Cannock Town, it is for sale through Marwood Homes at £315,000. It has a porch/hall, reception hall, downstairs WC, lounge, dining room, kitchen, veranda, kitchen, four bedrooms, a bathroom, garage and gardens.

In more detail the reception hall has a built-in cloaks/storage cupboard and the downstairs WC is off the reception hall and has an extractor fan.

The lounge has a feature fire surround having an electric fire and a coved ceiling. The dining room has a coved ceiling, a window to the rear and glazed double doors leading to the veranda.

The kitchen has a stainless steel sink, base units, laminate working surfaces, a breakfast bar, wall cupboards, plumbing for an automatic dishwasher, and a panelled/glazed access door to the rear garden.

Upstairs, off the landing, which has a window to the front, is bedroom one. This is a good sized bedroom which overlooks the frontage of the property. The remaining three bedrooms are also on this floor.

The garage has a cold water tap, plumbing for an automatic washing machine, a remote control up and over main access door, power points, a Worcester condensing central heating unit and a rear personnel access door.

With regards to the gardens, there is a side concrete/paved/gated pedestrian access, lawns, ornamental trees and shrubs, rose bushes, paved pathways and a vegetable garden. The rear garden is enclosed with close board fencing/screen hedging and the property is approached via a tarmac driveway. There are electric lights located to the outside of the main building.

CANNOCK £315,000



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Detached
4 bedrooms
Corner plot gardens
Double length garage
Extension potential



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Five-bed detached alongside building plot

RUGELEY
£299,950 >>>

This five-bedroomed traditional detached family home in Anson Street, Rugeley, is available to buy alongside a potential building plot.

It is for sale through JR Properties estate agents at £299,950.

Located in the town centre, this house offers lots of scope for upgrade and flexible living.

It has an entrance hallway, guest w.c., lounge, fitted kitchen and lean to. There is also a landing to three bedrooms and a bathroom and stairs to two further attic rooms. Add to this gardens and off road parking.

The seller also owns a detached garage, fronting onto Market Street which has had outline planning permission for a detached dwelling. This has now lapsed.

Contact JR Properties on 01889 577731 or visit www.jrpropertiesstaffs.com



Three-bedroomed semi-detached close to town centre

RUGELEY
£163,000

Close to Rugeley town centre, this three-bedroomed semi-detached house in Keystone Lane, is for sale through Southwell Estates at £163,000.

Its accommodation briefly comprises an entrance hall, a lounge, dining room, kitchen, three bedrooms and a bathroom. It is mostly double glazed with front and rear gardens, a driveway and a single car garage including an outside WC.

In more detail the entrance hall has stairs off to the first floor and an under-stairs storage cupboard. The lounge has a bay window and double sliding doors into the dining room which has a gas fire.

The kitchen is fitted with a base and wall units, a stainless steel sink and a drainer.

There is plumbing for an automatic washing machine.



Of the three bedrooms, bedroom one has fitted wardrobes and the bathroom has a white suite.

Outside the property is set behind a hedge.

There is a lawn to the front, a gated driveway leading to a single car garage and gates into a fully enclosed rear garden with a patio area, lawn and borders and an outside WC.

The driveway has an iron gate in front and leads to the garage.

The selling agents are expecting a lot of interest to be shown in the sale of this property.

For further information, or to book that all important viewing to see if this is the ideal next home for you, contact Southwell Estates on 01889 582137.



Fantastic detached property needs to be viewed

HEDNESFORD
£200,000

A fantastic detached house, 13 Foster Avenue, Hednesford, Cannock is for sale through DB Roberts & Partners at offers over £200,000.

To the East of Cannock centre, this property really needs to be viewed to be fully appreciated.

The property has been adapted and extended by the current owner to provide a generously sized family home.

Its accommodation briefly comprises of an entrance hall, lounge, kitchen/diner, conservatory, utility room, recreation room, ground floor shower room and WC, three bedrooms and family bathroom.

Outside there is parking, a car port, gardens and a versatile summer house.

For further information contact DB Roberts & Partners on 01543 469966 www.dbroberts.co.uk



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HEATH HAYES SALISBURY DRIVE



- A three bedroom detached house
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- Entrance hallway
- Lounge, dining room
- Kitchen, utility, guest cloakroom
- Master bedroom with ensuite
- Family bathroom
- Garage, gardens, driveway
- Awaiting EPC rating

£235,950

CANNOCK BRUNSWICK ROAD



- A well presented 3 bedroom
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge
- Kitchen/diner, dining room
- Three bedrooms
- Refitted family bathroom
- Garden to rear
- Driveway
- Awaiting EPC rating

£145,000

HEDNESFORD GREENHEATH ROAD



- Fully renovated three bed
- Two reception rooms
- Breakfast kitchen with dining
- Utility/Guest WC
- Family bathroom
- En-suite Shower room
- Driveway, garage
- Awaiting EPC rating

£224,950

HEATH HAYES DENBURY CLOSE



- A four bedroom semi detached house
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, dining room
- Kitchen, utility, guest cloakroom
- Family bathroom
- Garden to rear
- Driveway
- EPC rating E

£172,000

CANNOCK REDHILL ROAD



- One Bedroom
- Central heating
- Driveway, gated access
- Modern fitted kitchen
- Modern bathroom
- Awaiting EPC rating
- NO CHAIN

£124,995

HEDNESFORD CHAFFINCH CLOSE



- A two bedroom semi detached bungalow
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge/diner
- Refitted kitchen
- Refitted shower room
- Conservatory, carport
- Garden to rear and side
- Driveway
- Awaiting EPC rating

£169,950

CANNOCK ST AIDANS ROAD



- A two bedroom semi detached house
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, kitchen/diner
- Two good sized bedrooms
- Family bathroom
- Garden to front
- Corner plot
- Enclosed rear garden
- Awaiting EPC rating

£124,950

HEDNESFORD RAILWAY VIEW



- Ideal investment
- One bedroomed Apartment
- Modern fitted kitchen
- Modern fitted bathroom
- Entrance Hallway
- Allocated Parking
- Walking distance to train station
- NO CHAIN
- EPC rating C

£95,000

HEDNESFORD LINDEN VIEW



- A three bedroom detached house
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, Kitchen/diner
- Conservatory/Utility area
- Master bedroom with built in wardrobes
- Family bathroom
- Garden to rear
- Driveway and garage
- EPC rating C

£199,950

CHESLYN HAY SWAN CLOSE



- A three bedroom semi detached
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, kitchen/diner
- Conservatory
- Master bedroom with built in wardrobes
- Two further bedrooms
- Refitted family bathroom
- Garden to rear
- Driveway

£179,950

HEATH HAYES CANNOCK ROAD



- A traditional 3 bedroom property
- Entrance hallway/study area
- Lounge/diner
- Refitted kitchen/diner
- Utility, Guest cloakroom
- Master bedroom with en suite
- Refitted family bathroom
- Garden to rear off road parking
- EPC rating E

£260,000

HEATH HAYES PARTRIDGE CLOSE



- A modern two bedroom property
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Lounge, kitchen
- Family bathroom
- Two bedrooms
- Garden to rear
- Off road parking
- Ideal first time buy
- EPC rating C

£125,000

01543 62 44 00
info@flintandco.com
www.flintandco.com
fax: 01543 62 44 01



PROPERTY



Well-presented three-storey house in quiet cul-de-sac

This well-presented two/three-bedroomed three-storey town house in Almond Close, Heath Hayes, Cannock, is for sale through Lovett & Co Estate Agents, now at offers over £150,000.

The property is situated down a quiet cul-de-sac next to a peaceful nature reserve.

It has been finished to a good modern standard throughout and features a spacious first floor lounge

**HEATH HAYES
£150,000**

and breakfast kitchen, two double bedrooms and a ground floor dining/sitting room which could potentially be used as an extra bedroom.

There is also a modern refurbished bathroom – just two years old, a private rear garden, an integral garage and a newly block-paved

driveway with parking for up to four vehicles. The home is situated in Heath Hayes, Cannock, just ten minutes from Cannock Chase, an area of outstanding natural beauty.

The selling agents are expecting a great deal of interest to be shown in the sale of this property.

For further information, or to book that all important viewing to see if this is the ideal next home for you, contact Lovett & Co Estate Agents on 01543 889410.



Four-bedroomed semi boasts loft conversion

This four-bedroomed semi-detached house for sale in Littlewood Lane, Cheslyn Hay, Walsall, comes with a driveway for up to six cars and a loft conversion.

It is for sale through Keable Homes at £190,000.

The accommodation briefly comprises an entrance hallway, a lounge, kitchen, utility, guest WC, master bedroom, three further bedrooms and a bathroom.

**CHESLYN HAY
£190,000**

The rear garden has a paved patio area with the majority remaining laid to lawn and there are also shrub borders.

In more detail there is ample parking to the front of the property, via a full-width block paved driveway.

The kitchen has a range of modern white fitted units with chrome handles.

The selling agents are expecting the sale of this property to attract a lot of interest.

For further information, or to book that all important viewing to see if this is the ideal next home for you, call Keable Homes, at their local branch office, on their telephone number 01543 468847 or visit www.keablehomes.co.uk



Spacious family home has heated outdoor pool and four bedrooms

GREAT WYRLEY

£250,000

<<<

This spacious four-bedroomed detached family home in Walsall Road, Great Wyrley, Walsall, is for sale through Jayman Estate Agents at offers over £250,000 with no chain.

In brief the property comprises a porch, entrance hall, lounge, a dining room, a kitchen with a breakfast area, a downstairs WC, four double bedrooms and a family bathroom. Outside the property has off-road parking for several cars and a large rear garden with an outdoor heated swimming pool and a garage.

It is situated close to all local schools, amenities and transport links and viewing is highly recommended.

In more detail, the entrance hall has an under-stairs cupboard, the lounge has a gas fire and an archway to the dining area and the dining room has a walk-in bay window to the front.

For further information, or to book that all important viewing, call the agents on 01543 505566.



Link-detached house with three bedrooms

CANNOCK

£179,950

A link-detached family house in Cannock, 32 Knighton Road, is for sale through DB Roberts & Partners estate agents at £179,950.

It is in 'ready to move into condition' and interested househunters are being urged to book their viewing fast.

The property is well situated to access the town centre and has excellent commuter links.

Its accommodation briefly comprises an entrance hall, a lounge, a dining room, a fitted kitchen, a utility, an integral garage, three bedrooms and a family bathroom.

Call 01543 469966 or visit www.dbroberts.co.uk



Four-bedroomed detached is new to the market

This four-bedroomed detached house in Partridge Close, Huntingdon, is new to the property market.

It is for sale through Chase Independent Estate Agents at offers over £250,000.

Its accommodation includes a porch, through hallway, a refitted guest WC, a lounge, dining room,

HUNTINGDON

£250,000

family room, a refitted breakfast kitchen, a refitted bathroom, four bedrooms, an en-suite, gardens and a detached garage.

In more detail, the through hallway

has stairs off with the guest WC, the lounge has a feature fireplace housing a gas living flame fire and a bay window to the rear.

The dining room has a bay window to the front, while the family room has windows to the front and side.

Contact Chase Independent on 01543 737061.

For Sale By AUCTION

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£150,000



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* terms and conditions apply

Watermint Close
WIMBLEBURY



Well presented four bedroom detached family home / Envious corner plot position at the end of a quiet & sought after cul-de-sac / Parking for several vehicles plus an adjoining double garage / Large

£300,000

Rawnsley Road
HEDNESFORD



Outstanding four bedroom detached family home / Picturesque semi rural location between Cannock Chase & Hednesford Hills / Charming private rear garden with direct access to Cannock Chase

Offers in Excess of £280,000

Gorsemoor Road
HEATH HAYES



Immaculately presented and deceptively spacious four bedroom detached house / Set on large end plot / Generously extended on ground floor / Modern fitted high spec kitchen

£270,000

Asquith Drive
HEATH HAYES



Four bedroom detached house / Well established and sought after residential area / Spacious lounge and separate dining room / UPVC conservatory

£250,000

Corsican Drive
HEDNESFORD



Well presented four bedroom detached house / Set on sought after residential estate

£240,000

Streets Lane
CHESLYN HAY



Well presented and superbly maintained four bedroom detached family home / Sought after location / Superb spacious open plan lounge-diner / Integral garage and driveway

Offers in Excess of £230,000

WHY PAY MORE WHEN YOU CAN PAY LESS! THE SAVINGS YOU WILL MAKE

Sale Price Achieved	Standard Estate Agent's Fee @ 2.16% Inc VAT	Lovett&Co Estate Agent Fee @ 0.9% Inc VAT	The Savings YOU will make with Lovett&Co.
£105,000	£2,268	£997	£1,271
£150,000	£3,240	£1,425	£1,815
£200,000	£4,320	£1,900	£2,420
£300,000	£6,480	£2,860	£3,630
£500,000	£10,800	£4,760	£6,050

*Standard Estate Agents Fee Staffordshire @2.16% Inc VAT. Source: Rightmove (April 2017)



Railway Street
NORTON CANES



Deceptively spacious and well presented three bedroom detached house / Undergone refurbishment / NO ONWARD CHAIN / Very spacious open plan lounge-diner ideal for entertaining / Large rear

Offers in the Region Of £210,000

Trent View Close
RUGELEY



Immaculately presented three bedroom semi-detached house / Large end corner plot in a quiet cul-de-sac / Spacious lounge and dining room / Two storey side extension with a modern kitchen / Three

£190,000

Strauss Drive
HEATH HAYES



Well presented three storey town house / NO ONWARD CHAIN / Spacious living & sleeping accommodation / Modern fitted kitchen & bathroom / Victorian conservatory / Private rear garden / Driveway

Offers in the Region Of £185,000

Braemar Road
NORTON CANES



Well presented three bedroom semi detached family home / Quiet residential area / Spacious open plan lounge-diner / Rear conservatory / Driveway with parking for two vehicles

£175,000

Mount Street
HEDNESFORD



Three bedroom detached family home / NO ONWARD CHAIN / Spacious lounge and modern fitted kitchen-diner / Integral garage and a driveway with parking for 2-3 vehicles

£170,000

Almond Close
HEATH HAYES



Two-three bedroom town house / Quiet cul-de-sac next to a peaceful nature reserve / Two double bedrooms / New drive for 4 vehicles / Spacious first floor lounge and breakfast kitchen / Ground floor

Offers in Excess of £160,000

Sunley Drive
HEDNESFORD



Deceptively spacious & well presented three bedroom semi detached house / Situated down quiet cul-de-sac / Tastefully decorated & finished to excellent standard throughout

Offers in Excess of £160,000

Rawnsley Road
HEDNESFORD



Well presented refurbished two bedroom semi-detached house / Full planning permission to extend into a four bedroom house / Re-plastering, new electrics, new fitted central heating system and boiler

£150,000

Elder Close
HEATH HAYES



Two bedroom semi detached house / Set back from the road at the end of a private driveway / Spacious lounge and modern fitted kitchen-diner / Driveway for two vehicles / Good sized rear garden

£140,000

Whitfield Road
HEDNESFORD



Deceptively spacious & well presented two bedroom semi detached bungalow / Situated down quiet road / Modern fitted kitchen / Good sized private rear garden / Driveway for two vehicles

£140,000

Brindley Crescent
HEDNESFORD



Three bedroom mid terrace house / Semi rural location just a few minutes from Cannock Chase / Superb open plan high spec dining kitchen / Private rear garden / Rear driveway with parking for up to

Offers in the Region Of £140,000

Royal Close
RUGELEY



Two bedroom semi detached house / Set back and raised from the road down a quiet cul-de-sac / Tastefully decorated and finished to a good standard throughout / Superbly presented front lounge with

£140,000

Elizabeth Road
CANNOCK



Well presented two bedroom end terrace house / Spacious open plan lounge-diner / Modern fitted kitchen & bathroom / Two double bedrooms / Driveway for one vehicle

Offers in Excess of £135,000

Littleworth Road
RAWNSLEY



Traditional two bedroom mid terrace house / Peaceful semi rural location / Spacious reception rooms / Private rear courtyard and rear parking area for up to four vehicles

£130,000

Mount Street
HEDNESFORD



Well presented two bedroom semi detached / Set on a quiet end plot / Spacious lounge / Private rear garden / Two double bedrooms / Off road parking

£127,500

Cemetery Road
CHADSMOOR



Three Bedroom Mid Terrace Character Property / New Fitted Kitchen / Spacious Living & Sleeping Accommodation / Large Rear Garden / Parking Two Vehicles

Offers in Excess of £115,000

Frank Rogers Walk
RUGELEY



Well presented one bedroom semi detached bungalow / Set back from the road in a quiet location / Double bedroom / Modern fitted shower room / Private rear garden

£100,000

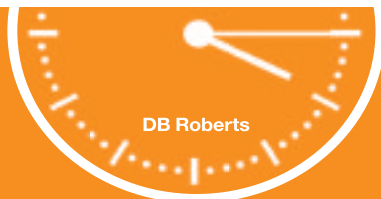
Victoria Street
CHADSMOOR



One bedroom maisonette / Situated on first floor / Completely renovated throughout / Enclosed rear garden / Access gate leading to front of property

£69,950

Tel: 01543 889410 **www.lovettco.co.uk**



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CANNOCK



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PrimeLocation.com



Lichfield Road Cannock



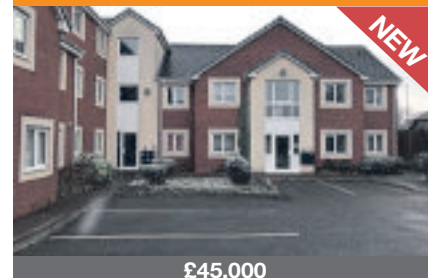
NEW

- ..PART EXCHANGE CONSIDERED..
- Three Bedroom Detached House
- Two Reception Rooms & Conservatory
- Pleasant Front & Rear Gardens
- Double Garage
- Wonderfully Maintained
- Excellent Access to Commuter Links
- EPC = F



£289,950

Railway Court Norton Canes



NEW

- First Floor Apartment • Lounge
- Separate Fitted Kitchen • Two Bedrooms
- Allocated Parking • EPC = B

£45,000

Foster Avenue Hednesford



NEW

- Three Bedroom Detached House • Two Reception Rooms
- Kitchen Diner • Conservatory & Versatile Games Room
- Gardens & Summer House • EPC=F

£200,000

Lowland Road Cannock



NEW

- Renovated Throughout • NO CHAIN!
- Three Bedrooms • Enclosed Rear Garden with Storage
- Driveway • EPC = F

£139,950

Blithfield Road Walsall



NEW

- Semi Detached House • Two Bedrooms
- Kitchen Diner • Front & Rear Gardens
- Off Road Parking • EPC = C

£139,950

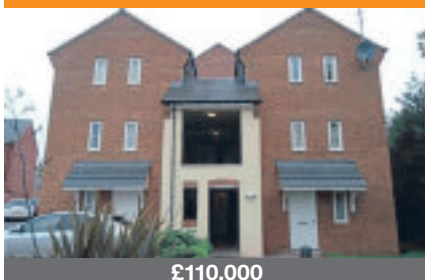
Southgate Cannock



- Semi Detached house • Three Bedrooms
- Open Plan Lounge Diner • Conservatory
- Rear Garden • Garage & Driveway - EPC = E

£154,950

Hindley View Rugeley



£110,000

- Attention First Time Buyers and Commuters • Two Bedroom First Floor Flat
- Lounge Diner • Loft Storage Space
- Allocated Parking Space • EPC = B

Rudyard Way Cannock



NEW

- Beautifully Presented Throughout
- Three Bedrooms
- Good Size Kitchen/Diner
- Enclosed Rear Garden
- Garage & Driveway
- Perfectly Situated for Commuting
- NO UPWARD CHAIN
- EPC= C

Griffin Close Burntwood



£159,950

- Three Bed Semi Detached House • Living Room with Dining Area
- Fitted Breakfast Kitchen • Front & Rear Gardens
- Off Road Parking • EPC = D



£169,950



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NEW

CHESLYN HAY
WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD






- Deceptively Spacious
- Detached Bungalow
- Sought After Location
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Utility Room
- 4 Bedrooms
- Dressing Room
- Family Bathroom
- Ample Parking

\$325,00

HEATH HAYES
DENBURY CLOSE




SS1C
Similar Required

- Popular Location
- Family Home
- Lounge, Dining Room
- Refitted Kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Driveway, Garage
- No Chain

\$164,950

CHESLYN HAY
STATION ROAD






- Wow Individual Build
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Conservatory
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Utility Room, WC
- 5 Bedrooms
- Rear Gardens
- Driveway, Garage
- Viewing Recommended

\$350,000

NEW

CANNOCK
STATION COURT




- Show Home Standard
- Spacious Lounge
- Kitchen, WC
- 2 Double Bedrooms
- Rear Gardens
- 2 Allocated Parking Spaces
- Viewing Essential

\$153,000

NO CHAIN

HEATH HAYES
ASQUITH DRIVE








- Detached Family Home
- Hall, Lounge
- Dining Room
- Kitchen, Utility
- Guests WC
- 4 Bedrooms
- En-Suite, Bathroom
- Gardens
- No Chain

\$250,000

NEW

HEDNESFORD
WESTHILL HOUSE

- First Floor Apartment
- Open Plan lounge/Kitchen
- Refitted Bathroom
- One Bedroom
- Parking To The Rear
- Hednesford Town Centre
- Viewing Essential

\$80,000

NEW

PENKRIDGE
YEW TREE COTTAGES






- Stunning Location
- Overlooking Open Fields
- Backing onto Cannock Chase
- Lounge with Orangery
- Stunning Refitted Kitchen
- Dining Area, WC
- 2 Bedrooms
- Outstanding Bathroom
- Generous Garden
- Driveway

\$285,000

NEW

COVEN
THE OAKHOUSE




- Spacious Barn Conversion
- Oak Kitchen
- Spacious Lounge
- Dining Room, WC
- Utility Room
- 3 Bedrooms
- Bed 1 - En-Suite
- Family Bathroom

\$350,000

"Service you expect from the Agent that delivers"

SALES LETTINGS MANAGEMENT AUCTIONS SURVEYS COMMERCIAL EPC's

33 TRURO PLACE, HEATH HAYES



A SUPERB CONSIDERABLY IMPROVED FOUR BEDROOM DETACHED HOUSE Occupying Corner Plot In Sought After Residential Area

- ◆ Recessed porch & entrance hall
- ◆ Lounge/dining room
- ◆ Dining kitchen & utility room
- ◆ UPVC double glazed conservatory
- ◆ Four bedrooms
- ◆ Refitted ensuite shower room & family bathroom
- ◆ Integral garage & landscaped gardens
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Gas central heating
- ◆ EPC rating D (61)

£299,950 FREEHOLD

51 DRUIDS AVENUE, ALDRIDGE



NO CHAIN

WELL EQUIPPED THREE BEDROOMED SEMI DETACHED BUNGALOW
Located In Much Sought After Residential Area

- ◆ Reception hall
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Breakfast kitchen
- ◆ Three bedrooms
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ Detached garage
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ Predominantly double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating D (67)

£279,950 FREEHOLD

HIGHFIELDS GARDENS

HIGH MOUNT STREET, HEDNESFORD, WS12 4BN (WITH ACCESS BETWEEN 93 AND 97)

PHASE IV OF WELL EQUIPPED TWO AND FOUR BEDROOMED HOMES
Being built as part of a private owner/occupier development of 22 dwellings

The Coach House Plot 1



- ◆ Well Equipped Two Bedroom Coach House
- ◆ Ground Floor Entrance Lobby
- ◆ Lounge with Fitted Kitchen Area
- ◆ Inner Hall
- ◆ Two Double Bedrooms
- ◆ Dressing Room off Bedroom One
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ Integral Garage with Store Room Off
- ◆ Private Garden at Rear
- ◆ Off Road Parking Space
- ◆ Gas Fired Central Heating
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating C (80)

Move In With 5% Deposit & 75%



Well Equipped Two Bedroom Coach House
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FLAT 7 ROWAN CROFT, PRICE STREET, CANNOCK



NO CHAIN

WELL EQUIPPED GROUND FLOOR TWO BEDROOMED APARTMENT
Located In Purpose Built Sheltered Housing Development Which Is Conveniently Located For Cannock Town Centre

- ◆ Entrance hall
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Refitted kitchen
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Refitted wet room shower room
- ◆ Warden control system/security phone system
- ◆ Communal grounds
- ◆ Electric heating
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating D (63)

£76,950

RYECROFT, LICHFIELD ROAD, CANNOCK



EXTENDED FOUR BEDROOMED DETACHED FAMILY HOUSE
Located In Popular Residential Area Convenient For Facilities at Cannock Town Centre

- ◆ Lounge and dining room
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ cloakroom and utility room
- ◆ Four bedrooms
- ◆ Bathroom and separate toilet
- ◆ Integral garage
- ◆ Garden
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating D (63)

£245,000 FREEHOLD

4 JONES LANE, SLITTING MILL



CONSIDERABLY IMPROVED AND EXTENDED FOUR BEDROOMED DETACHED FAMILY HOUSE LOCATED IN MUCH SOUGHT AFTER HAMLET OF SLITTING MILL WHICH NESTLES WITHIN CANNOCK CHASE AN AREA NOTED FOR ITS OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY. Conveniently Positioned For Access To Wide Range Of Facilities At Rugeley And Cannock

- ◆ Enclosed porch and hall
- ◆ Lounge and dining room
- ◆ Double glazed conservatory
- ◆ Fitted kitchen, utility and study
- ◆ Wet room shower/cloakroom
- ◆ Four bedrooms
- ◆ Two bathrooms
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ & gas fired central heating
- ◆ Planning permission to extend existing accommodation
- ◆ EPC rating D (64)

£395,000 FREEHOLD

49 LANGDALE DRIVE, CANNOCK



NO CHAIN

IMPROVED TWO BEDROOMED SEMI DETACHED BUNGALOW
Located In Popular Position Conveniently Located For Facilities

- ◆ Side entrance hall
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ Garage
- ◆ Gardens
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating D (58)

£139,950 LEASEHOLD

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262 LONGFORD ROAD, CANNOCK



NO CHAIN

THREE BEDROOMED SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
located In Popular Residential Area of the Town Convenient For Facilities Locally at Bideford Way

- ◆ Lounge/dining area
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Three bedrooms
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ Built on garage
- ◆ Well stocked gardens
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ Predominantly double glazed
- ◆ Intruder alarm
- ◆ EPC rating lbc

£189,950 FREEHOLD

16 WINDSOR ROAD, CHESLYN HAY



WELL EQUIPPED TWO BEDROOM MID TERRACED HOUSE
In Sought After Location

- ◆ Enclosed porch & reception hall
- ◆ L shaped lounge/dining room
- ◆ Breakfast kitchen
- ◆ Landing
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Shower Room
- ◆ Off road parking
- ◆ Gas central heating
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating lbc

£149,950

PLOT 1, 198 HEDNESFORD ROAD, NORTON CANES



ONE OF TWO WELL EQUIPPED FOUR BEDROOMED DETACHED FAMILY RESIDENCES
Well Located For Facilities Within This Popular Village

- ◆ Reception/study
- ◆ Cloakroom with Wc
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Fitted dining kitchen
- ◆ Four double bedrooms
- ◆ Ensuite shower room and family bathroom
- ◆ Integral garage & gardens
- ◆ Intruder alarm & 10 year warranty
- ◆ Gas fired central heating & fully double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating B (84)

£269,950 FREEHOLD

70 BEECH TREE LANE, CANNOCK



NO CHAIN

TWO BEDROOMED SEMI DETACHED BUNGALOW
Located In Popular Residential Area of the Town

- ◆ Reception hall
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Breakfast kitchen
- ◆ Two double bedrooms
- ◆ Garage and gardens
- ◆ Predominantly double glazed
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ Intruder alarm
- ◆ EPC rating D (60)

£186,950 FREEHOLD

8 HANNAFORD WAY, CANNOCK



NO CHAIN

TWO BEDROOMED FIRST FLOOR FLAT
Located In Popular Position For Facilities at Cannock Town Centre

- ◆ Entrance lobby & landing
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Breakfast kitchen
- ◆ Two double bedrooms
- ◆ Separate toilet
- ◆ Garden
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ Intruder alarm
- ◆ EPC rating C (70)

£96,950

15 CLARION WAY, WEST CHADSMOOR



TWO DOUBLE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
Convenient For Local Facilities

- ◆ Entrance hall
- ◆ Lounge and dining room
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Landing
- ◆ Two double bedrooms
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Gas central heating
- ◆ Corner plot gardens
- ◆ EPC rating C (69)

£129,950 FREEHOLD

6 ROWAN CROFT, PRICE STREET, CANNOCK



WELL EQUIPPED GROUND FLOOR APARTMENT LOCATED IN PURPOSES BUILT SHELTERED HOUSING DEVELOPMENT
Which Is Conveniently Located For Cannock Town Centre

- ◆ Entrance hall
- ◆ Lounge & kitchen
- ◆ Double bedroom
- ◆ Refitted shower room
- ◆ Warden call system/security phone system
- ◆ Communal halls & access areas
- ◆ Communal laundry/dryer facilities
- ◆ Communal grounds
- ◆ Economy 7 electric heating & double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating D (66)

£35,000 for 50% share

12 ULLSWATER PLACE, CANNOCK



NO CHAIN

WELL EQUIPPED DECEPTIVELY SPACIOUS 3 BEDROOMED DETACHED BUNGALOW
Located In Popular Cul-De-Sac convenient For Facilities at the Town Centre

- ◆ Reception hall
- ◆ L shaped lounge/dining area
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Three bedrooms
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ Built on garage
- ◆ Well stocked gardens
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating D (63)

£219,950 FREEHOLD

22 STATION ROAD, HEDNESFORD



NO CHAIN

INDIVIDUALLY DESIGNED CONSIDERABLY IMPROVED TWO BEDROOMED DETACHED BUNGALOW
Located In Popular Position Convenient For Facilities At Hednesford Town Centre

- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Refitted breakfast kitchen
- ◆ Two double bedrooms
- ◆ Refitted bathroom
- ◆ Integral garage
- ◆ Studio/utility/office
- ◆ Well stocked gardens
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
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The Chronicle Thursday, February 15, 2018

Boothurst Road, Hawksyard £219,950



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Deacons Way, Rugeley

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Lodge Road, Brereton £155,000



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Jubilee Street, Rugeley £127,500



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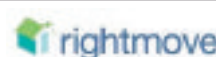
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- Detached Family Home
- Four Good Size Bedrooms
- Open Fields To The Front
- Two Reception Rooms

- Downstairs WC
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- Carport & Garage

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Volvo's XC40 is a breath of fresh air

By Tom Wiltshire

The XC40 is Volvo's new compact SUV – and note that the company calls it an SUV, and not a crossover. With high ground clearance, four-wheel drive available and “the proportions of an SUV”, this is less of a jacked-up hatchback and more of a scaled-down XC60.

The new baby of the Volvo range is also the brand's first entrant into this massively popular market sector, and with its fashioned design it aims straight at the heart of the territory the Range Rover Evoque has occupied so well.

The XC40 sits upon a brand-new platform that will go on to underpin several future models of the Swedish firm's range. Called CMA (Compact Modular Architecture), it will allow Volvo to offer the XC40 with not just petrol and diesel engines, but hybrid and even pure electric powertrains.

Occupying a market sector the firm hasn't entered before, the XC40 is by definition all-new, though items have been borrowed from across Volvo's range of 60 and 90 series cars.

Volvo's also using the XC40 to launch a new way of owning your car. Named Care by Volvo, it's more akin to a phone contract than a standard PCP or contract hire – owners pay Volvo a monthly fee which covers ownership of the vehicle and almost every other expense – tax, maintenance, and insurance. It also allows users to 'borrow' a larger car for up to 14 days a year. Currently only available within the M25, care by Volvo will roll out across the country if demand is strong enough.

We had the opportunity to sample both T5 petrol and D4 diesel models, both mated to eight-speed automatic gearboxes. The

2.0-litre petrol, though smooth and powerful, is noisy when pressed, and with high fuel consumption it's unlikely to be a big seller.

Instead, Volvo expects the bulk of sales to come from diesel models. Though grumbly at low speeds, the diesel engine soon quiets down at a cruise, and with 187bhp on tap it has more than enough shove for cutthroat city driving or long motorway journeys.

Initially, these will be the only two engines available, though later in 2018 Volvo will launch lower-powered engines – a 148bhp D3 diesel and 154bhp and 187bhp T3 and T3 petrols. All but T3 and D3 engines are offered with standard all-wheel drive and eight-speed autos – lower powered engines get front-wheel drive and six-speed manual gearboxes.

Ride comfort is excellent, even on the optional 19-inch wheels of our test car.

No compact SUV could reasonably be called a design triumph, but the XC40 is arguably one of the best of the bunch. Neat proportions give it a pleasingly rugged stance, and it's chock-full of neat detailing inside and out, like the tiny Swedish flag adornment on the corner of the bonnet.

Volvo's bold corporate grille dominates the front, flanked by eye-catching 'Thors Hammer' LED daytime running lights. Standard LED headlights ensure even base-spec Momentum cars look premium.

The XC40 is available with a wide array of paint colours including dual-tone combinations. Stylish alloy wheel designs stand out from the crowd too.

Step into an XC40 from a Range Rover Evoque and you'll be floored. The Volvo's interior is a genuinely lovely place to be, with great-quality materials and superbly comfortable seats even on base-spec cars.

The centre console is arranged around



Neat proportions give the XC40 a pleasantly rugged stance and it's chock-full of neat detailing inside and out

Volvo's nine-inch portrait-oriented touchscreen infotainment system. It's slick and works well. The company's main goal for the XC40's interior was to carve out storage spaces wherever possible – and it's achieved it. There's even a superbly engineered 'curry hook', which folds down from the glovebox to keep your Tikka Masala safely hung up rather than slopping around on the floor.

The clever touches continue in the boot, with a multifunctional false floor that can hide the parcel shelf, hang up bags and keep shopping from rolling around all at the same time. The boot itself is decently large at 460 litres, while six-footers will be able to sit comfortably in the rear.

Equipment levels are impressive. All cars come with LED headlights, navigation and a 12.3-inch digital dial display.

Three trim levels will be on offer in the UK – base-spec Momentum, sporty R-Design and flagship Inscription. Each also gains a 'Pro' variant, aimed at fleet buyers who may want choice equipment without delving into the options list.

R-Design adds leather and Nubuck upholstery, a sports chassis and racy alloy wheels, while Inscription switches aluminium dashboard inserts for wood, adds chrome around the window trim and adds a crystal to the gearknob. Safety kit is also generous, with autonomous braking capable of detecting

vehicles, pedestrians, cyclists, and even large animals. Spec the optional Intellisafe Assist pack and you'll benefit from adaptive cruise control with Volvo's brilliant Pilot Assist semi-autonomous driving system, which takes the sting out of motorway stints.

The XC40 is a breath of fresh air in a market sector that's quickly becoming bloated. It's neat exterior and wonderful interior are sure to earn it admiring glances, and it's every bit as impressive on the road as its main rivals.

Generous standard equipment and a predicted class-leading residual value is great too.

Model: Volvo XC40 D4.
Price as tested: £35,705

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BE THE FIRST TO SEE THE NEW XC40
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Official fuel consumption for the New Volvo XC40 range in MPG (l/100km): Urban 31.0 (9.1) – 49.6 (5.7), Extra Urban 47.1 (6.0) – 61.4 (4.6), Combined 39.8 (7.1) – 56.5 (5.0). CO₂ emissions 166 – 127g/km. MPG figures are obtained from laboratory testing intended for comparisons between vehicles and may not reflect real driving results. Preliminary data. Please contact us for the latest information.

*UK, 18+. Enter between 17.30 – 19.30 on 22.02.18. Attend a New Volvo XC40 launch event at a Volvo retailer and register details for a chance to win a New XC40 R-Design or Harman Kardon SoundSticks Wireless Speaker System. Subject to capacity limits. Visit XC40event.co.uk for full Terms and Conditions.



Kia's new Rio is packed full of standard equipment

Great value Rio is spacious and very well-equipped

By Ted Welford

The Rio is effectively Kia's Ford Fiesta rival. While it might not be something you've ever heard of, it has actually been around for a fair few years. While not the obvious choice to many in the supermini market, alongside popular choices, it is worth considering just in terms of value for money.

It now gets Kia/Hyundai's relatively new 1.0-litre T-GDi engine, offering 99bhp and 232Nm of torque. Kia launched its new fourth generation Rio last year, giving it a fresh new look and increasing its size. As one of Kia's best-selling cars, it is paramount that it got it right in the competitive supermini market.

It has received Kia's now trademark front slim grille, and a raft of safety technology, allowing it to compete against rivals from Ford and Seat, which both launched new versions of their popular superminis last year. Smart new LED DRLs have also been added, while the infotainment system has been completely redesigned, accessible via a smart seven-inch touchscreen.

Our Rio test car came with Kia's 1.0-litre turbocharged petrol engine. It's a flexible engine, offering decent performance and low running costs, and ideally sized for new drivers.



The cabin of the Rio is well-laid out

It produces 99bhp and a beefy, for its size, 232Nm of torque. While it's not fast, it can get from 0-60mph in 10.3 seconds and onto a top speed of 115mph. It's paired with a five-speed manual gearbox.

As for running costs, Kia claims it will return 62.8mpg, while emitting 102g/km of CO₂.

However, like many of these small turbocharged engines, it's difficult to get anywhere near the claimed fuel economy figures. After a 300-mile journey in it, and with steady driving, we struggled to get anywhere near 50mpg.

One of the best things about the Rio is how well it sits at motorway speeds. For such a small engine, it doesn't feel strained at all even when sat at 70mph. It also rides well for the best part, with only potholes and hefty bumps threatening to ruin its smoothness.

The cabin of the Rio is very well laid out, and everything is logically positioned. The seven-inch touchscreen also makes the Rio's interior look fresh and modern, which it largely is.

It's spacious too, with plenty of room up front and the rear should be big enough to seat two adults comfortably.

The Rio is an extremely well-equipped car that represents superb value for money. This top spec '3' model might seem a bit expensive at £16,785, but considering what you get for the money, it's a great deal.

As standard you get 16-inch alloy wheels, automatic lights and wipers, LED DRLs, cornering function lights and electric folding and adjustable mirrors.

On the inside you get faux black leather upholstery with front heated seats, a seven-inch touchscreen that includes satellite navigation, Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, rear parking sensors and a reversing camera.

On the safety front, it has autonomous emergency braking, lane departure warning and hill-start control. On our 300-mile snowy journey, though, the braking assist refused to work because of the snow blocking the sensors at the front.

The Kia Rio is a great-value, well-equipped and spacious supermini. In top spec '3', it is laden with all the equipment you'd ever need, and for that reason is the pick of the range.

The 1.0-litre T-GDi engine is also fantastically capable on the motorway and around town.

Model as tested : Rio 1.0 T-GDi '3' Eco
Price : £16,785

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The Power to Surprise

Fiesta partys on and EcoSport is on a roll

Ford's Fiesta is Britain's favourite – a best-seller for more than 40 years and still number one with the car buying public.

To date it has notched up more than 16 million buyers, and the latest model is still winning awards. That makes it the ideal platform on which to base another new model, the EcoSport, which competes in the fast-growing SUV market. Both have been updated and improved in recent months.

Since it first appeared in 1976, the Fiesta has gone through seven generations of improvements making it bigger, better equipped and safer, with petrol and diesel engines to suit whether you want better than 88mpg economy of the 75PS diesel or the award-winning 1.0 petrol turbo, capable of 0 to 62mph in under ten seconds and of averaging 65mpg. A 200Ps high performance Fiesta ST is on the way, too. A wide range of trim levels ensures that there is a Fiesta to suit every pocket, right up to the Vignale flagship, bringing new levels of luxury to the supermini class.

The latest model has already carried off coveted awards including Carbuyer's Car of the Year, BBC TopGear magazine's Supermini of the Year and Best Budget car at the Women's World Car of the Year awards.

These successes come hot on the heels of What Car? magazine's award for the outgoing Ford Fiesta Best Small Car in its Used Car of the Year Awards.



The latest Ford Fiesta is the best yet

Car-review website editor Stuart Milne said: "It is Britain's favourite car year in, year out, and the latest Ford Fiesta is the best yet. It looks great inside and out and packs plenty of big-car features into its compact dimensions. Buyers can choose from tremendous audio upgrades, autonomous driving features and levels of luxury in the top-spec Vignale – unthinkable a few years ago. The new Fiesta boasts more interior space and safety kit than ever before, plus it is a fantastically fun car to drive. With attributes like this, it is no wonder we have named the new Ford Fiesta Carbuyer Car of the Year 2018."

The new EcoSport is one of the most affordable of the compact SUVs, and comes with a bold new look, new equipment and a revised suspension to give drivers an improved ride and handling.

There's more choice in the range, too, with the addition of a new 1.5 litre EcoBlue turbo diesel engine and, with that, the option of Ford's Intelligent All-Wheel Drive system, which can adjust the torque split between the axles to the extent that 50 per cent is directed to the rear almost instantaneously.

The 1.5-litre EcoBlue diesel engine is designed to deliver higher power for improved performance, alongside reduced CO2 emissions – as low as 107g/km.

It also shares the 1.0 litre, 125Ps turbocharged petrol engine as the Fiesta, boosted to 140Ps in the sporty-trimmed ST-Line – another addition to the range.

The new EcoSport delivers driver assistance technologies including SYNC 3 connectivity, cruise control with adjustable speed-limiter and rear view camera.

A user-centric, upscale new interior offers a superior occupant experience with floating central eight-inch touchscreen, heated steering wheel and smart storage solutions including an adjustable boot floor.

The interior features a host of smart storage solutions, including a new height adjustable boot floor that can be raised to provide concealed storage, or lowered to increase luggage capacity to 334 litres.

The boot floor uses a special honeycomb construction that makes it gramme-for-gramme stronger than steel, and able to support more than 300 kg.

A new centre console features a built-in folding, sliding passenger armrest with a storage compartment ideal for tablet computers or snacks, and the CD-player is relocated to a new position above the glovebox to minimise impact on storage space.



The new EcoSport is one of the most affordable of the compact SUVs, and comes with a bold new look

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Official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) Highest: FORD All New Focus 2.3 EcoBoost (350PS) With Stop/Start - 5 Door, M6: Urban 28.2 (10.0), Extra Urban 44.8 (6.3), Combined 36.7 (7.7), CO₂ emissions 175(g/km). Lowest: FORD All New Focus 1.5 Duratorq TDCi (105PS) With Stop/Start - 5 Door, M6: urban 74.3 (3.8), extra urban 91.1 (3.1), combined 83.1 (3.4), Official CO₂ emission 88g/km. * Excludes Stamp Duty and M+ models. Prices & details correct at time of publishing & are subject to change without notice. The Finance Deposit Allowance is only available when financed with Ford Credit. *Finance subject to status to UK residents aged 18 or over through Ford Credit. Guarantees/Financing may be required. An Excess Mileage Charge will be payable if you decide to return the vehicle & the agreed annual mileage has been exceeded. Finance example figures are based on 6,000 miles per annum for illustration purposes & may vary depending on circumstances. Please note calls may be recorded for training & quality purposes. Acorn Group Ltd is an appointed representative of Automotive Compliance Ltd, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA No 497000), whose permitted business is to act as Principal Firm for a network of Motor Dealer Appointed Representatives who advise on and arrange non-investment insurance contracts, acting on behalf of the insurer and act as Credit Brokers for introduction to finance providers, acting on behalf of the lender. (Details correct at time of publication, EMOE)



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The award-winning Isuzu D-Max benefits from a number of attractive offers across the product range, including the D-Max Eiger, available from just £199 per month (excl. VAT) on Business Contract Hire.

Available in number of variants, the award-winning D-Max offers maximum performance from refined engineering and manufacturing. Equipped with a trusted 1.9L engine, the iconic Isuzu D-Max range benefits from class leading MPG and a reliable reputation.

Perfectly designed for both work and comfort, the Isuzu D-Max Eiger offers high specifications, reliability and a range of competitive finance options as standard. With 16" alloy wheels, chrome door mirrors and handles, reversing camera and remote control central locking it really takes the meaning of 'standard equipment' to a whole new level.

Isuzu's D-Max finance offers don't stop there, with many attractive quotes across the pick-up range.

Stepping up, the D-Max Yukon is available for just £239 a month (excl. VAT), over 23 months, with an initial rental of £2150.91 plus VAT. A punchy engine also benefits the Yukon, and all other D-Max variants, offering 164 PS and 360Nm of torque.

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The D-Max has maximum performance from a 1.9l engine

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All offers end on March 31 and are available direct through any official Isuzu Dealer in the UK. For more information on offers, finance packages and dealer locations, visit www.isuzu.co.uk/isuzu-offers

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New Sport Model joins luxury Lexus RX line-up

The Lexus RX is making a stylish start to 2018 with the addition of a new Sport model to the luxury crossover range.

The combination of new, black-themed style details plus an equipment specification rich in luxury and technology features give the new RX Sport extra customer appeal, together with the proven quality, refinement and efficiency of its self-charging petrol-electric hybrid powertrain.

The RX 450h Sport is distinguished by a series of exterior elements with a matching black finish. This includes a powerful rendition of the trademark Lexus spindle grille, featuring a sequence of horizontal black fins, framed in chrome and flanked by fog lights set in new black surrounds.

The 20-inch alloy wheels have a twin-spoke design and are also finished in black.

The side profile is further punctuated by new black housings for the heated, electrically adjustable door mirrors with integrated turn indicators and auto-folding function.

The cabin has an all-black theme, including the smooth leather upholstery.

At the rear a new black and chrome diffuser treatment for the lower part of the bumper creates a strong contrast



The RX 450h Sport is distinguished by a series of exterior elements

with the bodywork colour while also expressing the RX's status as a spacious SUV with all-wheel drive capability.

It sits at the heart of the RX range as an accessible choice for customers, based on the Luxury grade.

In addition to its specific external features, the RX Sport is equipped to a high level. LED headlights with Automatic High Beam, smooth leather upholstery Lexus Premium Navigation, a 12.3-inch multimedia

display, heated and ventilated front seats with power adjustment and a memory setting for the driver's seat, steering wheel and door mirrors.

The fourth generation RX has a top five-star safety rating from Euro NCAP and all versions are fitted with the Lexus Safety System+ package of active safety and driver assistance features.

The new RX Sport is on sale now, priced £51,645 on- the-road.

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Official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) - Ignis range: Urban from 51.3 (5.5) to 57.6 (4.9), Extra Urban from 64.2 (4.4) to 70.6 (4.0), Combined from 60.1 (4.7) to 65.7 (4.3). Official CO2 emissions from 106g/km to 97g/km. Swift range: Urban from 44.1 (6.4) to 58.8 (4.8), Extra Urban from 65.7 (4.3) to 76.3 (3.7), Combined from 56.5 (5.0) to 65.7 (4.3). Official CO2 emissions from 114g/km to 97g/km. Vitara range: Urban from 42.1 (6.7) to 61.4 (4.6), Extra Urban from 55.4 (5.1) to 76.3 (3.7), Combined from 49.5 (5.7) to 70.6 (4.0). Official CO2 emissions from 131g/km to 106g/km.

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In Memoriam

JACKSON
Sheila Ann

Four years, February 14.

Memories of you will never grow old, unseen, unheard, you are always near, so missed so loved, so very dear. Loving Husband Brian and all the Family.

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Deaths

ALLEN
Frank

Passed away peacefully on Monday, January 29, 2018, aged 83 years.

Frank was much loved and will be missed dearly by all of his Family and Friends.

The Funeral Service will take place on Friday, February 23, 2018 at St Mark's Church, Great Wyrley, at 1.45pm, followed by a Committal at Bushbury Crematorium West Chapel.

Family flowers only please.

Donations, if so desired for Alzheimer's Society.

All inquiries c/o

A.J. Sellman
Family Funeral Directors
70 Church Street,
Cannock, WS11 2HH
01543 502322

Deaths

BARNETT
John

Passed away peacefully on January 28, 2018, aged 79 years.

Beloved Husband of Glenys. Devoted Father to Julie and Andrew.

John will be sadly missed by all his loving Family and Friends.

The Funeral Service will take place at St Mark's Church, Great Wyrley, on Wednesday, February 21, 2018, at 2pm, followed by a Committal at Bushbury Crematorium.

Family flowers only please.

Donations for Dementia and Multiple Sclerosis will be gratefully received and a donation box will be available at the Service.

All inquiries to

HALLIWELL

Funeral Service

164 Walsall Road

Great Wyrley

WS6 6NQ

Telephone 01922 419090.

Deaths

CARTER
Howard Terence
(Terry)

Sadly passed away aged 75 years.

Funeral Service and Cremation to be held at Stafford Crematorium, Friday, February 23, 2018, at 10.30am.

Donations if desired to British Heart Foundation.

COX

Doris Frances

Doll passed away peacefully on Sunday, January 28, 2018 at Hawksyard Priory Nursing Home, aged 89 years.

Her Funeral Service will take place at Stafford Crematorium on Tuesday, February 20, at 3.30pm.

Family flowers only please, any donations kindly received will be given to Cancer Research UK.

For further information please contact

BRUCE WALKER

Funeral Directors

33, Market Street,

Rugeley.

WS15 2JH.

Telephone: 01889 584513.

GRIFFITHS

Betty Julia

Passed away peacefully on Saturday, February 4, 2018, aged 77 years.

Betty was much loved and will be missed dearly by all of her Family and Friends.

The Funeral Service will take place on Wednesday, February 21, 2018, at Stafford Crematorium at 4pm.

It was Betty's wish that those attending the Funeral did not wear black and that they could wear clothing of their choice.

Family flowers only please.

Donations, if so desired, for NSPCC.

A.J. Sellman
Family Funeral Directors
70 Church Street,
Cannock, WS11 2HH
01543 502322

HALL

Joseph James

Of Cannock.

Passed away at County Hospital on Monday, January 29, 2018, aged 88 years.

Joseph will be sadly missed by all his loving Family.

Funeral Service to be held at Stafford Crematorium on Monday, February 26, 2018, at 11am.

Family flowers only. Donations for Air Ambulance and Katherine House will be gratefully accepted on the day.

Inquiries to



HAYWARD

Barbara Ann

Sadly passed away Wednesday, January 31, 2018, aged 76 years.

Barbara was much loved and will be dearly missed by all her Family and Friends.

The Funeral Service will be held at St Mark's Church, Great Wyrley, 10.15am on Monday, February 26, 2018, followed by the Committal at Bushbury Crematorium, West Chapel.

Family flowers only please.

Donations, if so desired for Katharine House.



KENDALL

Beryl

Sadly passed away on Wednesday, February 7, 2018, aged 85 years

Beryl was a beloved Mother to Alan, Kevin, Barry, Martin and Katie, loving Nan to her Grandchildren and Great-Grandchildren.

She will be dearly missed by all.

The Funeral Service will be held at St Mark's Church, Great Wyrley, Friday, February 23, at 10am, followed by a Burial at Great Wyrley Cemetery.

Flowers welcome.

Donations, if so desired for Alzheimer's Society.



LEGGAT

Jean Audrey

Passed away at home on January 16, 2018.

Funeral Service on Friday, February 23 at St Luke's Church, Cannock, 10am followed by Committal at Stafford Crematorium, 11am.

Donations forwarded to Kidney Foundation c/o

CO-OPERATIVE

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Cannock.

Telephone 01543 572644.

LLOYD

Carol Rose

Passed away peacefully February 8, 2018, with her Family by her side, aged 69 years.

She will be deeply missed by all her Family and Friends.

Funeral Service will be held at Trinity Church, Hednesford, on Tuesday, February 27, at 2.30pm, followed by Cremation at Stafford Crematorium.

Family flowers only please.

Donations for Breast Cancer Research or Diabetes UK c/o

Stacey's
Family Funeral Directors
30 Greenheath Road
Hednesford, WS12 4AR
01543 422524

ROBINSON

Derek

(Dek)

Formerly of Robinson Newsagents, Short Heath.

Sadly passed away Monday, February 5, 2018, aged 70 years.

Derek was much loved and will be dearly missed by all his Family and Friends.

The Funeral Service will be held at Holy Trinity Church, Short Heath, 2pm on Wednesday, February 21, 2018, followed by the Committal at Bushbury Crematorium, West Chapel.

Family flowers only please.

Donations, if so desired for Stroke Association.

A.J. Sellman
Family Funeral Directors
67 Station Street,
Cheslyn Hay WS6 7EG
01922 410612

ROBINSON

Derek

Husband, Dad and Grandad
Your kind heart and help we could not forget, together with your joy and happiness.

God Bless, forever.

Love, Wife Jean, Sons Simon (Sue), Mark (Lisa) Paul (Hellen) and loving Grandchildren Sophie and Joseph.

X X X X X

VIEW YOUR FAMILY & FRIENDS ANNOUNCEMENTS ONLINE!

www.myfamilyannouncements.co.uk/
expressandstar
ENGAGEMENTS
CONDOLENCES
MEMORIES
BIRTHDAYS
WEDDINGS & BIRTHS

Passed away peacefully at Stafford Hospital on February 4, 2018, just 3 days before his 90th birthday, after a short illness, with all his Family around him.

The dearly loved and loving Father of Mark, Jean and John. Grandfather of Debbie, Jane, David, Rebecca and Katie and Great-Grandfather of Nicole, Kristie, Rachel, Joe, Lara, Georgina and Holly.

The Funeral Service will take place on February 23 at 2pm, at Stafford Crematorium.

Family flowers only please, but donations if desired may be made to Macmillan Nurses.

May Joe now rest in peace with his beloved Wife Mildred.

All inquiries c/o

A.J. Sellman
Family Funeral Directors
28 Church Street,
Cannock, WS11 1JH
01543 502322

SAVAGE

Harold

Passed away peacefully on Saturday, February 3, 2018, aged 85 years.

Harold was much loved and will be missed dearly by all of his Family and Friends.

The Funeral Service will take place on Tuesday, February 2, 2018, at Stafford Crematorium at 11am.

Family flowers only please.

Donations, if so desired, for Cancer Research UK.

All inquiries c/o

A.J. Sellman
Family Funeral Directors
28 Church Street,
Cannock, WS11 1JH
01543 502322

WILCOX

Raymond Frederick

(Ginge)

(Former Miner of Littleton Colliery).

Passed away peacefully on Wednesday, February 7, 2018, aged 90 years.

Special thanks to Nephew John and his Partner Lisa for all their help over the years. Also to Sandra, Gail and the Staff at Water's Edge Care Home, Great Wyrley and all the Paramedics for their help and care and always being there for the Family.

The Funeral Service is to be held on Tuesday, February 27 at 3.30pm, at Stafford Crematorium.

Family flowers only please. Donations, if so desired, can be made to support the Paramedics.

All inquiries c/o

A.J. Sellman
Family Funeral Directors
28 Church Street,
Cannock, WS11 1JH
01543 502322

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENT CUSTOMER INFORMATION

Please note that the deadline for our weekly Cannock Chronicle is 4pm every Friday, for the following weeks edition.

This is subject to change Bank Holidays.

Eg (4pm Thursday)

Cannock Reception will be closing at 4.30pm on a Friday.

Classified Ads

Buy Local, Sell Local

1

Family

Elderly & Disabled

DAYTONA CARECO
Scooter and charger.
Used only a few times, in excellent condition.
£425 ono
Cannock 07534 176831

ELECTRIC PRIDE
Go Chair, new model. Only six months old c/w charger. Excellent condition.
£425 ono.
Cannock 07534 176831



MOBILITY SCOOTER

Elite GoGo Sport. Cost £895 new. Full service history and paperwork. Recent new battery pack and charger. Excellent condition.

£395.

01902 565456.

MOBILITY SCOOTER
Four wheels, easily transportable in small car.
Real bargain £260.
0121 440 2867 / 07804 239956.
Can deliver.

WREKIN STAIRLIFTS reconditioned lifts from £799. New available. 01952 40537 / 07897 273617

2

Leisure Time

Bikes

JACKSON-HATELEY CYCLES
www.jackson-hateleycycles.co.uk

MASSIVE SALE NOW ON
Book your cycle now for Easter at sale price
Get your fantastic bargain now
All cycles built and guaranteed with a 24 hour repair service

HATELEY'S
Simply the best
Ring Dave on
01902 782344
458 Stafford Road, Oxley, Wolverhampton

Boats & Water Sports

OUTBOARD MOTOR WANTED.
Anything considered, reasonably priced. 01922 492321.

Car Boot Sales

QUALITY INDOOR BOOT SALE
Pelsall Community Centre.
Station Road, WS3 4BB.
Sunday, February 25th.
9am - 1pm.

★ **FREE ENTRY** ★
Call Dawn 07973 705739 to book a table.

Caravans Wanted

All Caravans Wanted
Any Age or Condition
*CASH * WAITING*
Immediate collection
Call Bill on 07825 325 913

Caravans/ Motorhomes



AVONDALE OSPREY 2000

2-Berth.
Beautiful condition.
Full awning.
All accessories.

Ready to go.

Sale due to ill health.

£2,500 ono.

0121 568 7442 after 3pm.

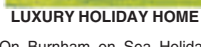


LUXURY HOLIDAY HOME

On Burnham on Sea Holiday Village. Swimming pools, owners lounge, live lounge. Fishing lake, includes site fees. Insurance and water rates.

£31,000 ono.

07794 856860.



On Burnham on Sea Holiday Village. Swimming pools, owners lounge, live lounge. Fishing lake, includes site fees. Insurance and water rates.

£31,000 ono.

07794 856860.

STATIC CARAVAN
ABI Brisbane, 36 x 12, 2 bed, 2007, DG, CH, en suite, in good condition, price includes balconies. To be moved off site. More pics available.

£10,000 ono.

01902 605337.



STATIC CARAVAN

ABI Brisbane, 36 x 12, 2 bed, 2007, DG, CH, en suite, in good condition, price includes balconies. To be moved off site. More pics available.

£10,000 ono.

01902 605337.



Static Caravan

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North Wales

Abbey Grange Hotel
Llangollen, North Wales
SHORT BREAKS
£90 FOR 1 NIGHT
£150 FOR 2 NIGHTS
DINNER, BED & BREAKFAST
Hotel is situated in beautiful countryside. Log fires, real ales brewed on premises - home cooked food from local produce. All rooms en suite, colour tv, central heating + tea making facilities. Family run hotel.
Telephone 01978 860753 for brochure or
www.abbey-grange-hotel.co.uk

Self Catering Holidays

SELF-CATERING LODGE
holidays on Award Winning Rural Holiday Park near Staffordshire / Shropshire Border. Please visit www.oaklandholidaypark.co.uk or call us on 01902 851302.

Travel Abroad

READERS ARE REMINDED to check with any Advertisers that their holiday costs are fully covered by a recognised bonding or insurance scheme.

mind, body & soul

THE TANNING ROOMS
Full body massage 30 mins £22, 40 mins £27, 1 hour £37
SHOWER FACILITIES
Call: 01902 782960

what's on

Antique Fairs

Antique Fairs

ANTIQUE/ VINTAGE FAIR
CALFEATH HALL, CALFEATH
CANNOCK, WV10 7DW
SUNDAY FEBRUARY 18TH
9 AM - 3 PM
07783 680 627

VINTAGE ANTIQUE / Collectables
Fair, Coven Memorial Hall WV9 5DL, Sunday 18 Feb, 9-3. Karen 01384 277373 / 07938 123040.

Book Fair

BOOK FAIR Kinver Community Centre, DY7 6ER, inc postcards. Sunday 18th February. Also Bromsgrove first & last Friday each month. Est 1978. Waverley. Next Antique Fair MAR 4th. Home made refreshments. 0121 550 4381.

holidays

Caravan Holidays

SEA SIDE SOMERSET HOLIDAY
caravans to let, all overlook the sea. Half price OAP offer. 01984631781 www.helwellbay.com

TOWYN N.WALES, Caravans to let, small site, good rates, all facilities

01745 334937 or 07766 306230

Devon

PAIGNTON The Kingswinford
February - March offers
2 nights, 2 people B&B
ONLY £99
Room only available
FAMILY ROOMS AVAILABLE
CHILD DISCOUNTS
All rooms en suite
100 yards to beach and pier
Contractors Welcome
01803 558358
www.kingswinfordhotel.com

Antiques

Louis Taylor
The Art Antiques & Values
Antique valuations first
Wednesday of every month, 10am - 2pm
Ancient High House Museum, Stafford, ST16 2JA
01782 638100

Home & Services

ASH RECLAMATION new and used building materials, upvc doors and windows 01543 453222.

CASH PAID
£300+ PER OUNCE
FOR 9 CARAT GOLD.
ANY AMOUNT COLLECTED!
Lady Buyer
gold coins, pre - 47 silver coins, watches, costume jewellery, porcelain, any oriental items, old brass items, any silver items, War medals military etc.
HOUSE CLEARANCES!
Call: 01922 495066 or 07971 783206

Items Wanted

A BEST CASH PRICE PAID
for antiques, vintage furniture, leather-winged arm chairs & chestfield settees.
01902 454144 or 0121 5263375

Antiques

ASH RECLAMATION new and used building materials, upvc doors and windows 01543 453222.

Antiques

ASH RECLAMATION new and used building materials, upvc doors and windows 01543 453222.

Antiques

ANTIQUES WANTED
Furniture, Clocks, China, Medals, Coins, Old wind-up Wrist and Pocket Watches Paintings, Gold/Silver/Costume Jewellery
CHASE ANTIQUES
(Over 40 Years Trading)
01543 572367 07831 818024

Furniture

ALMOST NEW Willowbrook, Coniston 2 power assisted armchairs, 2 seater settee, green, unused, bought 2015, £2500ono 0121 588 2194.

GREAT BARGAIN
OUR PAIN YOUR GAIN
Just delivered January 30, 2.5 and 2 seater Dallas Power recliner sofas, for sale at half price paid, receipts available.
Only £941 the pair.

Genuine new not refurbished, too large for our room.
Manufacturer HTL Int.
Range 9265 Billy Joe, Dallas Suede leather look, colour hazelnut.

For viewing and detail call 01785 226846 (Stafford).

WANTED
VINTAGE TOYS

Star Wars, He-Man, Ghost Busters, Ninja Turtles, Corgi or Dinky.

All vintage toys considered.
Good prices paid.

Unleash the cash in your loft.
Call Tony on 07812 903338.

Loans

READERS ARE REMINDED that they may require professional advice before entering into obligations.

t.v. / home entertainment

HOME DOCTOR
TREES, GARDENING & LANDSCAPING

Trees, Fencing, Graveling, Turfing, Slabbing, Brick Walls, Block Paving & Power Washing
Guaranteed Registered Business.

CRB police checked
01902 212905
07873 990980

SLABS 450mm x 450mm RIVEN
FACED, only £1.87 inc. VAT.
Ranton Building Supplies:
01543 276006.

Items For Sale

ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED
That the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

ASH RECLAMATION new and used building materials, upvc doors and windows 01543 453222.

CASH PAID
£300+ PER OUNCE
FOR 9 CARAT GOLD.
ANY AMOUNT COLLECTED!
Lady Buyer
gold coins, pre - 47 silver coins, watches, costume jewellery, porcelain, any oriental items, old brass items, any silver items, War medals military etc.
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HOUSE CLEARANCES!
Call: 01922 495066 or 07971 783206

Antiques

A AERIAL AND SKY SPECIALIST
Digital aerials, CCTV cameras, TV wall mount fitted. 07850 330251.

CLASSIFIEDS FOR YOU!

CLASSIFIEDS FOR YOU!

CLASSIFIEDS FOR YOU!

CLASSIFIEDS FOR YOU!

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ALL ROUND CLEARANCE
Professional family run business
House clearances full or part,
also, garages, sheds etc.
Telephone Kevin
07794 912844

Painters/Decorators

DECORACE Painter & Decorator.
Quality work at reasonable prices.
OAP discounts. Free quotes:
01902 636259 07876 135302

LADY PAINTER & DECORATOR
City and guild qualified, local, reliable, affordable. 07916 399490.

Plans Prepared

ADAM DESIGN, Building Plans.
Drawn and submitted to council.
Tel: 01902 620200 / 07841 654037.
Email: adamdesign@sky.com

Plastering

MINT PLASTERING
For the very best in plastering and rendering,
full rooms inc materials from 110. Halls,
stairs and landings from 200
30 years experience.
Free quotes. All work guaranteed
01543 327130 / 07519 694516

Plumbing & Heating

TAD PLUMBING & HEATING
For all your plumbing needs.
30 years experience
24 HOUR CALL OUT, NO FEE!
Call Trevor on **07791 319397**
www.tadplumbingandheatingwolverhampton.co.uk

PLUMBING WORK UNDERTAKEN
No job too small or large. Call Will
for a free quote on: 07521 411108.

Removals

CALL DEAN NOW: For all your
Removal needs. 07429 453209/
01902 830870 / 01384 940260.

KT HOUSE REMOVALS
12 years experience.
SINGLE ITEMS TO FULL LOADS.
LOCAL OR DISTANCE. FULLY INSURED.
Free Quotes - Call Ric on:
07771 727119

KC REMOVALS We beat any quote,
full or part loads, all areas. Anything
considered. Call on 07867 862227.

Roofing

CLIFF NICHOLLS
Roofing & Scaffolding
Rubber Roofing
37 years experience
FREEPHONE
(0800) 220 - 729

Doctor
FLAT ROOF SPECIALIST
ALL ROOFING WORK UNDERTAKEN
Tile replacement/Chimney pointing
Fascias & Guttering
01902 562393

MG ROOFING
Flat Roofing, Tiling, Roof Repairs,
Fascias and Gutters.
Call **01902 238989 /**
07580 465449.
www.mgroofingwestmidlands.co.uk

6
Property

Accommodation To Let

NOTICE TO READERS
Readers are advised to seek
independent legal advice before
entering into any financial commitments/contracts.

NOTICE TO READERS
It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an
Agency to charge a fee simply for
the registration of your requirements
and/or supplying particulars of
premises to let.

Overseas Property

NOTICE TO READERS
Readers are advised to seek
independent legal advice before
entering into any financial commitments.

Properties Wanted

WE PAY 100% of purchase price EVERY TIME!
FAST 4 Your House CASH

You agree the price, we buy the house...

- NO AGENTS FEES • COMPLETION TO SUIT YOU
- FREE SOLICITORS • ANY HOUSE, ANY CONDITION

0800 999 999 6
01384 500 500 **30 yrs**

www.black-countryhomes.co.uk * subject to terms

CASH NOW FOR YOUR HOUSE
UP TO £25,000 CASH ADVANCE NOW (in 24hrs)
0800 389 6788 01902 628047
Wolverhampton properties
We can buy your house in 7 days
Lines open 24 hours a day 7 days a week Terms applicable

WE BUY ANY HOUSE CASH
CALL US FREE 24 Hours/ 7days
0800 246 1047

✓ All Your Costs Paid & No Selling Fees
✓ We Buy Any Area & Any Condition
✓ STOP Repossession/Eviction
✓ Release Your Equity Today
www.UKFASTSALE.co.uk
FREE Solicitors, FREE Survey, FREE Home Removals, FREE EPC

GET UP TO £20,000 CASH ADVANCE
5 STAR REVIEWS
UKFast Sale

Yes! HOMEBUYERS
THE EASY WAY TO SELL YOUR HOUSE

We Buy Houses For Cash

Free Valuation? Yes! No Fees? Yes! Any Location? Yes!
Fast Sale? Yes! Any House? Yes! Any Condition? Yes!

Get your FREE, instant cash offer today!

Call 01543 547 807
or text "Cash" to 66777 **yeshomebuyers.com**

We buy houses
Sell your house fast

- avoid repossession
- behind on payments
- job relocation
- unwanted inheritance

What more - we buy in any condition
No estate agent fees
We pay all your legal fees
ACT NOW!
Contact us on:
07796 801219 / 07988 882090

4
Pets & Animals

Equestrian Corner

ALL READERS are advised to
check if Horses, Donkeys or Ponies
have the required Passport information.

Guns & Dogs

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS
Advertisers must ensure that
they meet all necessary legal
requirements for owning and using
guns.

Pets Corner

NOTICE TO READERS
Please be aware that when
purchasing a puppy there are
some simple guidelines you can
follow to ensure that you are not
purchasing from a Puppy
Farmer:

1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with it's Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree. Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

7
Jobs

Building & Construction

EXPERIENCED GENERAL BUILDER required to work on domestic extensions and new builds within a 15 mile radius of Lichfield. Must have own transport and hand tools. Hours of work 8.00am-4.30pm Monday to Friday. Duties include groundwork, brickwork, structural work etc. Paid weekly and must be registered for CIS. Please call Stuart on 07973 128414.

Full Time General

SUPPORT WORKER Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Partnership NHS are recruiting caring people with experience. Why not drop in to the Northfield Village, Stone Road, Stafford ST16 2RB 10:00am - 4:00pm on Monday 26th February 2018. For info email: job.opportunities@sstp.nhs.uk

THE APPRENTICESHIP SHOW

Apprenticeships are open to ALL ages
Come and find out how they could work for you

Thursday 8 March 2018
The International Centre, Telford
12noon - 7.30pm Last entry 7pm



www.telfordjobbox.co.uk/tas18

Showcasing 100's of apprenticeships opportunities across Telford and Wrekin, Shropshire, The West Midlands and beyond.



icare

CARERS NEEDED IN THE RUGELEY & CANNOCK AREA

Drivers or Walkers - £9.00 per hour.
Staff Benefits Include:

- Comprehensive training programmes
- Flexible shifts - weekdays, evenings and weekends.
- 28 Days Paid Holiday pro rate.
- Weekly pay.
- Full and part time work available.
- Excellent opportunities career progression for the most suitable candidate.
- Zoned working areas.

Monthly staff awards with the winners being entered into the finals of our annual staff awards ceremony.
The option to study for a recognised qualification (NVQ in Health Services & Social Care)
Equal Opportunities Employer
Please contact HR via email
hr@icaregroup.co.uk
or call us on
01253 351366

Courses

BIRMINGHAM: 5-6 May and 5-6 September
STOKE: 6-7 August **Telford: 8-9 August**
WOLVERHAMPTON: 8-9 March & 25-26 July

Learn how to take blood
TRAIN AS A PHLEBOTOMIST
Introduction to Phlebotomy
TWO DAY COURSE - NATIONALLY RECOGNISED

- Allied Healthcare Career Path
- Accredited (advanced) qualification
- No previous experience required

For more info, or to book online: **www.geopace.com**

High demand in: Hospitals - GP Surgeries - Clinics - Private Sector - MOD - Research

Drivers

RANTON BUILDING SUPPLIES
require HGV Driver for local delivery work. Crane licence preferred but not essential. 01543 276006

Part Time - General



NEWS DELIVERERS
required in the WS7 -1 area of Burntwood
Please contact
Customer Services on 0800 174064

5
Business & Farming

Business Opportunities

READERS are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering into any obligations.

8
Motoring

Cars Over £1500

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

PRESTIGE

MERCEDES BENZ
CLK 2.7D, 2003, silver metallic, leather interior, sat nav, AMG alloys, new tyres fitted 78,000 miles. MoT, full service history.
Bargain £2,500
01543 451892
07790 884466.

MB MOTORS
MOBILE MECHANIC
07809 871733
mbmotorsstaffordshire.co.uk
mbmotors@outlook.com

- MOT'S
- Servicing
- Tyres
- Diagnostics
- Air con
- Auto Electrics

MOT's

MOTs ONLY £29.50
formula one autocentres
CANNOCK WS11 OBN
01543 50 20 00
F1AUTOCENTRES.COM

Cars Under £1500

LOW MILEAGE

CHEVROLET TACUMA
5 seater,
55 plate,
blue,
only 52,000 miles,
four new tyres.
MoT'd till May.
£300 no offers.
0121 531 0240.
Genuine calls only please.



PEUGEOT 207 1.4S
2007, 94,699 miles, black, electric windows, air con, MoT, CD, recent full service, water pump, cambelt and head gasket, very clean and ready to go.
£1,325 ono.
07969 969377.



SKODA FABIA DIESEL
03 reg.
5 dr, Classic.
7 months MoT.
157,200 miles.
Very clean inside and out.
Service History.
Owned for last 8 years.
Silver.
£395.
01902 471098 / 07508 081543.

Commercial Vehicles

MUST BE SEEN

VAUXHALL COMBO 1300cc
2012,
5 months MoT,
no advisories,
118,000 miles,
very good condition.
£3,300
01889 570265 /
07975 672997.

spares & accessories

Mobile Mechanics

Scrap Vehicles

OUR ADVERTISERS are reminded that it is an offence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 to buy scrap cars/metal for cash.

MCB
TOP PRICES PAID FOR
ALL SCRAP CARS,
VANS, BIKES, CLASSICS
Tel: 01902 408176
1000's of parts
available at all times
MONMORE RD. WV1 2TZ

Vehicles Wanted

CROWN MOTORS guarantee best price for your unwanted cars/vans. 07903 549849, buyer will call.

CARS WANTED
DEAD OR ALIVE!
Runners/ Non Runners,
MOT Failures.
Can Collect. Cash Waiting!
Scrap Cars, Motoring Memorabilia
and Garage Tools Wanted!
Call 07790 032224
01902 823933

WANTED
SMALL CAR

Must be in good condition, with MOT.

Up to £1,000 paid.
Telephone 07961 589264.

9
Local Information

Public Notices

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES

For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to

Marie Hogg on
01902 713146
or email marie.hogg@
expressandstar.co.uk

(remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 (AS AMENDED)
ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991
DIVERSION OF VEHICULAR TRAFFIC
A460 LODGE LANE, CANNOCK

NOTICE is hereby given that the Staffordshire County Council intend not less than seven days from the date of this Notice to make an order the effect of which will be to prohibit any vehicle from proceeding in that length of A460 Lodge Lane in Cannock from its junction with the Saredon Road roundabout to its junction with the A5 Watling Street roundabout unless the vehicle is being used in connection with the works. Emergency service access can be maintained as works will stop lifting operations briefly if required.

An alternative route for traffic is available via A460 Lodge Lane, A4601 Wolverhampton Road, A5 Watling Street and vice versa. For more information, visit: <https://roadworks.org?tm=104404356>.

The order will come into operation on 4 March 2018 and the said works will commence on or as near as practicable to that date. It is anticipated that the works will be completed on the same day.

The Order will remain in force for a period of 18 months, or until the installation of a railway gantry works undertaken by ABC Electrification Ltd, which it is proposed to carry out on or near the road have been completed, whichever is the earlier.

John Tradewell, Director for Strategy, Governance & Change,
No. 2 Staffordshire Place, Tipping Street, Stafford, ST16 2DH

Ref: 4097438 Enquiries: Customer Contact Centre Tel: 0300 111 8000
www.staffordshire.gov.uk/trafficregulationorders <http://roadworks.org>
Date: 15 February 2018

DORIS ANDREWS (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 22 Sneylands Bryan Lane Rugeley Staffordshire WS15 2JS, who died on 10/11/2017, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 16/04/2018, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.

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Stokes buzzing over fight night at Genting

BOXER Josh Stokes is buzzing to get in the ring at the Genting Arena and earn the fifth victory of his burgeoning career. The 24-year-old will compete on BCB Promotions' 'Now Or Never' show on February 23.

It was initially set to be on the undercard of Frankie Gavin's IBO World Welterweight Championship bid. However, that has now been rescheduled for March 24.

West Bromwich light heavyweight Stokes hasn't fought since stopping Latvian Raimonds Sniedze in September last year but believes this will be to his advantage. "I was supposed to fight in December but I wasn't very well, so I couldn't," he said.

"I think the break will have done me good anyway," he added. "I have been working hard in the gym and it has given me a chance to work on a few different things. It is a class show and I cannot wait to get out and box there. I don't think I will be fazed by it."

Tickets, from £40, are available from theticketfactory.com

Kindon guest speaker at Smile for Joel night

FORMER Wolves star Steve Kindon is the guest speaker at a sportsman's dinner in aid of the Smile For Joel charity next month. It takes place at the Copthorne Hotel in Brierley Hill on Thursday, March 1.

Tables of 10 are £400 plus VAT with a former player from either Villa, Wolves, Albion, Blues or Walsall on each table.

Event organiser Steve Saul, from Route 39, said: "The support we get from former players from the local clubs is amazing. Last year we raised £6,000 for Smile For Joel and we are looking to top that this year."

Contact Route 39 on 01902 244220 to book places or for more information.

The cause was set up in memory of Tunisia terror attack victims Charles Evans, Joel Richards and Adrian Evans, from Wednesbury, who died in 2015.

Former Wolves winger Kindon is a five-times winner of the Soccer Speaker of the Year award.

Promotion recalled as trio take centre stage

THE manager, captain and Player of the Year from Wolves' historic first promotion to the Premier League are back in Wolverhampton to mark the occasion's 15th anniversary.

Boss Dave Jones, defender Paul Butler and goalkeeper Matt Murray will be at the ECC Sports and Social Club, on Showell Road on March 1.

The 2003 Championship play-off final, a 3-0 win over Sheffield United at Cardiff, will be shown in full before the trio take centre stage.

Jones, aged 61, is back in the area, living at the Bridgnorth home he's retained since his time in charge of Wolves, from January 2001 to November 2004. Murray, 36, is now a pundit after being forced to retire from the game due to injury. He saved a penalty in the play-off final.

Butler left Molineux the following summer and played for Leeds, Milton Keynes Dons and Chester before hanging up his boots in 2009. He's now 45.

Tickets are £10, which includes a buffet and photo opportunity. For more information and to buy, call into the venue or dial 01902 424455.



Visitor Rose Cook-Monk signs the book of remembrance



Duncan's first cousin Keith Edwards takes a look the exhibition

Exhibition kicks off to honour legend Duncan

SPORTING FEATURE

Report by David Cosgrove

AN exhibition in honour of Black Country football great Duncan Edwards has been launched and will run until March 30.

The display includes a special book of remembrance to mark the 60th anniversary this month of the Dudley-born Manchester United and England star's death.

Among the first to sign the book was Tony Whelan, a former Manchester United player and now assistant director of the club's academy.

He was joined by Birmingham teenage prospect Dermot Mee, who is currently in the youth set-up at Old Trafford and hoping to follow in Duncan's footsteps.

The pair made a special trip from Manchester to get a glimpse of the exhibition in Duncan's honour. It is being held at Dudley Archives and Local History Centre, near the Black Country Living Museum, and features a host of photographs, press cuttings, memorabilia and football programmes relating to legendary 'Busby Babe'.

Privilege

Mr Whelan said: "We are proud to follow in the footsteps of Duncan. He will be a Manchester United legend forever, and it was a real honour and a privilege to come down today to see this new exhibition."

Dermot said: "Duncan was very special to everyone at Man United throughout his time at the club."

"He has inspired many of us players to continue right to the end, chasing our dreams."

"His story is a special one for me as obviously we're both from a similar neck of the woods, and it would be a dream to follow in his footsteps one day."

United and England icon Duncan was one of eight players who died following the Munich air disaster on February 6, 1958. He died 15 days later on February 21, aged just 21. The book of remembrance forms part



Edwards in action for Manchester United

of an extended exhibition honouring the footballer.

The museum, which is normally closed on a Sunday, will be open especially from noon to 2pm on February 18 as part of the commemoration.

It will tie in with a special service of remembrance on the same day at St Francis's Church, where there are two stained glass windows celebrating Duncan's memory.

Around 80 Manchester United fans are expected to travel on the day for the service and to visit the museum, as well as visiting Duncan's grave at Queen's Cross cemetery and stopping off at his statue in the town centre.

A special wall of remembrance is also being set up at the church, where Duncan's funeral was held, for visitors. It will tell the story of his life, from his childhood in Priory Park to his days playing for the Red Devils and England, and was being unveiled at the

start of this week. A Duncan Edwards Tribute Dinner will take place at the Copthorne Hotel in Brierley Hill on February 21 with special guests including former Manchester United manager Tommy Docherty and European Cup-winning goalkeeper Alex Stepney, as well as members of the Manchester United Former Players Association.

Councillor Dave Tyler, Mayor of Dudley, said: "I would urge anyone who has any memories of Duncan Edwards to get along to this exhibition and put pen to paper in the book. He was a giant of the beautiful game, and he was Dudley born and bred."

In total Duncan made 177 appearances for Manchester United, scoring 21 goals, and playing his part in two league title wins in the mid to late 1950s. Nicknamed 'The Tank', he also won 18 caps for England, netting five times for the national side.

Travelled

He was once famously described by former teammate and best friend Sir Bobby Charlton as "the only player who made me feel inferior".

Duncan and Sir Bobby shared the same digs in Manchester and during National Service near Shrewsbury they travelled together on the train every Friday night for Saturday matches before returning to the Army on Monday.

Sir Bobby said: "Duncan was the complete footballer – a colossus, powerful with his heading ability and unbreakable in the tackle. He would rampage tirelessly across the pitch, had a perfect first touch and was deadly in front of goal."

Sir Bobby, who was pulled from the burning wreckage of the aircraft, has never forgotten those who perished in the disaster. He said: "Almost 60 years have passed since I last saw Duncan when I left hospital in Munich and I still think of him almost every day."

"I am very pleased to be part of this tribute in Dudley that will pay homage to the memory of my friend, team-mate and the greatest footballer I have ever seen."

For further information on any of the events taking place as part of the tribute, log onto www.duncanwardtribute.com, email jwc@duncanwardtribute.com or call Jim Cadman on 07971624627.

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Callum grabs winner in a close tussle

A HARD-WORKING display from Cannock's hockey men saw them come out 1-0 winners in a close fought encounter with Durham Uni M1s, the Cannock goal coming just before half-time, from Callum Swinnerton-Ions.

Meanwhile, after being 2-0 down after 10 minutes, Cannock M3s lost by the odd goal in nine to Leek. Following their early setback Cannock made it 2-1 before half-time, during which Cannock worked out they could not defend, so tried a new tactic to score more than the opposition. They pegged back the opposition once more to 4-3, then back to 4-4, but Leek got the winner five minutes before the end.

Cannock M4s lost 4-1 to Edgbaston, Phil Heighway deflecting the ball into the left corner of the goal for the Staffordshire team's goal.

Cannock M5s thrashed Lichfield M5s 9-1, with Robbo (2), Liam Daffern (4), Bruce (2), and Karl Bayliss on target.

Cannock L1s lost 3-1 to Olton after giving away a penalty stroke for 'deliberate break down of play in the D'. Olton converted to give them an early 1-0 lead. A breakaway from Olton soon led to Cannock finding themselves 2-0 down. However, great movement and quick play saw a textbook finish by Jodie Bedow to see the home side go into half-time only 2-1 down.

In other games, Cannock L2s beat Edgbaston 1s 2-1 in a well deserved win which brought three much needed points; Cannock L3s drew 3-3 against Bloxwich L1s thanks to a late equaliser following a fantastic one-two; and Cannock L4s drew 3-3 against Phoenix Blues, Cannock's third goal eventually coming from POM Courtney Hill.

Cannock L5s drew 1-1 with Lichfield. Cannock played some great hockey, with the defence maintaining a strong back to prevent Lichfield from scoring. Unfortunately in the first half Lichfield defeated the defence, scoring a goal. Despite this, Cannock maintained a constant position in allowing Mandy McColl to score. Cannock's player of the match from Lichfield went to Kim McColl and Cannock's player went to Mandy McColl.

Burntwood extend lead without playing

BURNWOOD RUGBY CLUB extended their lead at the top of the table on Saturday without even taking the field. Their re-arranged fixture at Trentham was called off by the hosts who could not raise a side due to illness and injury.

The second XV also went without a game when Stafford 2nds were under strength and couldn't honour the fixture at The Sportsway.

This Saturday Burntwood will hope to resume normal service with league fixtures against Handsworth with the 1st XV away and the 2nd XV at home - kick-offs 2.15pm.

Sloping off for chance of success



Young skier Kieran Woolley

A HEDNESFORD skier has set his sights on returning from this week's English Alpine Championships with more success under his belt.

The championships take place in Bormio, Italy, until tomorrow (Friday).

Chase Grammar school pupil Kieran Woolley, aged 12, already has success on the slopes having

claimed titles in the mini category last year. He has now made the step up to under-14s, and the Evolution youngster said: "Skiing isn't going as well in terms of my form as it was last year but I think that's down to the step up in age group - it's a lot different."

"I just need to push myself a bit harder and keep getting stronger and I should keep improving."

"I'm still looking to win at the championships - that's what I want to do."

Woolley is also a talented snowboarder. "My dad used to snowboard so that got me into skiing when I was about four," he said. "I do snowboard as well but I take skiing more seriously now. I hope to go to the Olympics and World Championships one day."

3-GOAL BLITZ PROVES COSTLY

Hednesford Town 2 Barwell 3

AN early second-half collapse from the Pitmen handed Barwell all three points as the home side missed out on a chance to move back into the top five of the Evo-Stik Premier.

The opening exchanges saw little between the two sides with neither side really testing the opposition goalkeeper.

The first half-chance on goal came in the 15th minute when Nigel Julien fired in a shot from 30 yards that rippled the side netting with James Wren flying across the goal.

Right on the stroke of half-time, Hednesford took the lead when Jordan Graham curled an effort home from the edge of the box into the bottom corner. Just two minutes into the second half, Barwell were level when James Wren palmed away a shot from Craig Reid and Matthew Stenson was on hand to fire the ball under the goalkeeper and into the net.

Dangerous

The visitors edged ahead in the 51st minute as both Callam Mendez-Jones and Sam Oji failed to clear the ball away and Stenson capitalised.

It was almost a hat-trick for the dangerous winger in the 63rd minute when he struck the upright. A minute later and the away side grabbed their third goal as Charlie Gatter miskicked and Mitchell Piggon squeezed a shot into the far corner of the net.

In the 74th minute, Hednesford almost reduced the arrears when James Lawrie powered in an effort on goal only to see it tipped onto the bar by Liam Castle.

The Pitmen reduced the score in the 89th minute. Graham did well again, but although his shot hit the bar, Tom Thorley was on hand to fire the ball into the net.

The visitors should really have added a fourth with Wren stranded upfront but Lawrie cleared off the line.

Pitmen travel to Stalybridge on Saturday.

Funding boost for hockey player



Lily Walker in action for Cannock Ladies

A YOUNG Cannock hockey player has been given a cash boost by a regional housebuilder as she sets her sights on an international tournament.

Lily Walker, aged 15, applied to Persimmon Homes West Midlands to become one of its Healthy Communities programme winners.

Under the scheme, a host of regional prizes of £750 were up for grabs each month until the end of 2017 to provide funding for amateur sports teams and individuals for sports kit, equipment, coaching or facilities.

After bagging the regional prize, Lily is now on a shortlist of 30 for the national final to be decided on a public vote. The winning club or individual will receive £200,000 and two runners-up £50,000.

Lily is now hoping to play for England u-16s in July in the Six Nations tournament to be held in Ireland. She is already a member of the England Hockey u-16 National Age Group Squad. She is one of the youngest players in the National Conference League West, playing for Cannock Ladies Hockey Club.

A GCSE student at Kingsmead School, Hednesford, Lily said: "I am over the moon that Persimmon Homes has decided to support me in this way."

Stephen Cleveley, Director in Charge of Persimmon Homes West Midlands, said: "Lily is exactly the kind of determined, talented youngster that we wanted to support."

Dreams of Wembley snuffed out



Dejected - Phil McKerdy at the final whistle

Wolves Sporting 3 Leighton Town 4
BRAVE Wolves Sporting just missed out on a place in the FA Vase quarter-finals after losing out to Spartan South Midlands side Leighton Town in a seven-goal thriller.

In what was the biggest game in the Great Wyrley side's brief history, the outcome was decided by a disputed second-half penalty. A pulsating first half saw six goals arrive inside half an hour as both sides attacked from the word go.

Leighton drew first blood when James Hatch netted from a corner, but Sporting were level within a couple of minutes when Mitch Clarke bundled home a Kyle Delaney corner. Leighton were back in front on 18 minutes as Hatch struck again before Alex O'Brien made it 3-1 to the Bedfordshire side when netting direct from a free-kick.

Sporting battled back to level, Jon Letford lashing home after latching on to Hill's overhead kick on 25 minutes before full-back Phil McKerdy was brought down and Alex Moore netted the resulting penalty, which crashed in off the bar.

The second half was much more subdued, but the outcome was decided when Delaney was adjudged to have impeded Hatch and O'Brien fired home from the spot on 62 minutes to seal the tie.

Sporting's manager Andy Paddock said: "It was disappointing to concede four goals from set-pieces, but the players can hold their heads high."

Sangha and Holt in final

INDI Sangha and Paul Holt will slug it out for the Midlands Area Super Featherweight Title after reaching the final of the inaugural BCB Midlands Boxing Super Series. The semi-finals took place on Saturday and neither bout disappointed.

Wolverhampton resident Sangha eased past Tamworth's Louis Fielding on Saturday. In the other semi-final, Birmingham's Paul Holt proved too much for Chasetown's Luke Jones.

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